BRAC UNIVERSITY

Annual Report 2011



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BRAC
UNIVERSITY

BRAC UNIVERSITY



Message from the Founder and Chairperson Board of Trustees, BRAC University

It gives me immense pleasure to see that the 2011 had been one of the most successful years for BRAC University. The year saw the university to complete ten years since its humble, yet ambitious beginning in 2001. We had a vision of creating a center of excellence in higher education that would equip its students with the tools necessary to respond to the challenges of our time and produce leaders who bring positive socio-economic changes. Towards this goal the university strives to provide a broad based, well-rounded education that produces ethical, conscientious citizens, committee to take Bangladesh on the road to progress and prosperity. Today, I am happy to note that the university has come a long way towards achieving these objectives.

The year 2011 was also momentous for the university in many ways. During the year, we, in accordance with the Private University Act of 2010, reorganized the Board of Trustees (BoT), Syndicate and the Academic Council and other committees. Over 5 acres of land in Merul Badda was handed over to the university by BRAC to set up a permanent campus there. An internationally reputed architectural firm was appointed to design the university campus that we hope would be an iconic structure in the country.

On the academic front, the university continued to broaden its undergraduate course offerings in the areas of science, commerce and humanities. The year 2011 saw the drawing up of syllabus for graduate and certificate courses in Media and Journalism, History, Anthropology, Gender Studies etc. These courses will provide the students with a much broader platform to choose in undergraduate studies. BRAC University's schools and institutes for post-graduate study and research continue to distinguish themselves in their areas of specialization and have earned accolade among students, civil servants, executives and development practitioners from home and abroad. The university also benefits from its partnerships with leading universities around the world and through new perspectives and ideas brought in by a growing number of international students.

I am also pleased to note that the university continues to make every possible effort to encourage meritorious students from disadvantaged families, having provided financial aid totaling BDT 3.69 crore during the year 2010-2011. BRAC-Ford Foundation Scholarship program particularly benefits students from poor and ultra-poor families.

BRAC University graduates continue to shine in their respective fields of studies at home and abroad. Many are in fast-track career path in reputable organizations; some have been pursuing M. Phil and Doctoral courses in renowned universities abroad, while many others have proved themselves as successful entrepreneurs, creating jobs and prosperity for themselves, as well for the nation. The credit for all of these is due to the hard work and valuable guidance provided by the university's faculty and staff member. Their combined efforts, along with the strategic guidance provided by the members of the Board of Trustees (BoT), Syndicate and the Academic Council, will lead BRAC University to even loftier heights in the future.

As we take stock of our successes in 2011, let us rededicate ourselves to the broader mission of BRAC University and work together to ensure that the task at hand is successfully accomplished and a stronger foundation is laid for the future of BRAC University.

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG


BRAC UNIVERSITY

BRAC UNIVERSITY



Message from the Vice Chancellor

BRAC University stepped into a new era in 2011 when it celebrated its 10th anniversary. Since its establishment in 2001, the University has expanded rapidly. The university started with only 3 departments and about 70 students. It now has 5 departments, 4 Schools, 3 Institutes and 2 Centers with nearly 4500 students and an array of highly qualified faculty members. Over the years, the university brought changes in the learning process for its students in order to blend with the changing context and time. BRAC University has established itself as an excellent broad-based academic institution in the country.

Throughout the year, the University has continued to provide the best quality education to its students. There were a number of landmark achievements during the year. BRAC University School of Engineering students are the first among Bangladeshi Universities that participated in Lunabotics Mining Competition 2011, organized by NASA, USA. BRAC Business School received Asia's Best Business School Leadership Award, presented by CMO Asia. Other departments too earned many laurels for their academic and co-curricular activities.

We are on our way to new heights in research and knowledge creation. Our quality of research is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and we were ranked at the top for spending the highest amount of money in research in the country. Institute of Educational Development (IED), BRAC Development Institute (BDI), and Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) are engaged in various research activities at improving governance, education and social development in Bangladesh. BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL) is providing a variety of foreign language courses to improve the language skills of our students. Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER) has been established in response to the increasing need for research for combating adverse impacts of climate change, and also to play an active role in preventing environmental degradation. James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) runs a world-class course in Masters in Public Heath (MPH), besides undertaking a number of health related researches every year.

The University holds regular convocations. The 6th convocation was held on 7th February, 2011 at the Bangabandhu International Convention Centre (BICC). Ms. Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, was present as the Convocation Speaker. A total of 501 students were awarded undergraduate and post-graduate degrees in the convocation. Our graduates are making their mark in their respective fields. Some achieved high recognition by receiving awards in the national and international arena. Others are working for reputed organizations, while many others are pursuing higher studies in world-class universities abroad.

I would like to extend my deep gratitude to the Members of the Board of Trustees, Syndicate, and Academic Council for their continuous advice, guidance and support. I would also like to congratulate our talented students, faculty members and staffs, without whom it would have been impossible to achieve so much in so short a time.

Professor Ainun Nishat
Vice Chancellor



BRAC University Campus, Savar



A Scene from the cultural activities

GOVERNANCE

Chancellor
Md. Zillur Rahman
Hon'ble President, People's Republic of Bangladesh

Vice Chancellor
Professor Ainun Nishat

Pro-Vice Chancellor
Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir

Treasurer
Mr. Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar

Registrar
Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG
Founder & Chairperson, BRAC

Members of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Faruq Ahmad Choudhury
Former Foreign Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Professor Anisuzzaman
Professor Emeritus
Dhaka University

Advocate Sultana Kamal
Executive Director
Ain O Salish Kendro (ASK)

Mr. Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury
Chairman
BRACNet

Professor Dilara Chowdhury
Former Professor
Department of Government and Politics
Jahangir Nagar University

Ms. Salma Khan
Chairperson
NGO Coalition on Beijing PFA

Dr. Mahabub Hossain
Executive Director
BRAC

Ms. Rasheda K. Choudhury
Executive Director
CAMPE

Ms. Tamara Hasan Abed
Director, Aarong, AAF
BRAC Dairy & Food Project

Professor Ainun Nishat (ex-officio)
Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Secretary

Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury
Registrar
BRAC University

MEETINGS

The three meetings of the Board of Trustees took place on 26 January, 27 June, and 21November 2011.













2011 : An eventful year in BRAC University

SYNDICATE

Syndicate of BRACU was established in early 2011 under Private University Act 2010. Syndicate is the highest executive body that exercises administrative and supervisory control on academic, administrative and management activities of the University:

Chairperson

Professor Ainun Nishat
Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Members of the Syndicate

Mr. Faruq Ahmad Choudhury
Former Foreign Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Professor Anisuzzaman
Professor Emeritus
Dhaka University

Ms. Tamara Hasan Abed
Director, Aarong, AAF
BRAC Dairy & Food Project

Professor Khondakar Ashraf Hossain
Department of English
University of Dhaka

Mr. Mofizul Islam
Additional Secretary (College)
Ministry of Education

Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir
Pro-Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Mr. Sukhendra K. Sarker
Treasurer
BRAC University

Professor Fuad H. Mallick
Chairperson, Department of Architecture
BRAC University

Member Secretary

Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury
Registrar
BRAC University

MEETINGS
The four meetings of the BRACU Syndicate took place on 29 March, 23 June, 21 August, and 03 November 2011.













BRAC University's Co-curricular activities

Academic Council

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

Chairperson

Professor Ainun Nishat
Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Members

Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir
Pro-Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Professor Iqbal Mahmud
Former Vice Chancellor, BUET

Ms. Salma Khan
Chairperson
NGO Coalition on Beijing PFA

Dr. Perween Hasan
Acting Vice Chancellor
Central Women's University

Ms. Rasheda K. Choudhury
Executive Director
CAMPE

Dr. Faustina Pereira
Director, Human Rights and Legal Services
BRAC

Dr. Timothy G. Evans
Dean, James P Grant School of Public Health
BRAC University

Professor A. A. Ziauddin Ahmad
Chairperson, Mathematics and Natural Sciences
BRAC University

Professor Firdous Azim
Chairperson, English and Humanities
BRAC University

Professor Fuad Hassan Mallick
Chairperson, Department of Architecture
BRAC University

Professor Sayeed Salam
Chairperson, Electrical & Electronic Engineering
BRAC University

Professor Mumit Khan
Chairperson
Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering
BRAC University

Dr. Shahdeen Malik
Director, School of Law
BRAC University

Professor Syed M Hashemi
Director, BRAC Development Institute, and
Chairperson (Acting), Economics and Social Sciences
BRAC University

Professor Mamun Rashid
Director, BRAC Business School
BRAC University

Professor Khondoker Shamsuddin Mahmood
Head (Undergraduate Program), School of Law
BRAC University

Professor Ashik Mosadddik
Chairperson, Pharmacy
BRAC University

Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed
Director, Centre for Languages
BRAC University

Dr. Erum Mariam
Director, Institute of Educational Development
BRAC University

Dr. Rizwan Khair
Director (In-charge), Institute of Governance Studies
BRAC University

Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed
Professor, Mathematics and Natural Sciences
BRAC University

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury
Coordinator, Biotechnology Program
Mathematics and Natural Sciences
BRAC University

Dr. Zainab F Ali
Director, Student Affairs
BRAC University

Member Secretary

Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury
Registrar
BRAC University

MEETINGS

The five meetings of the Academic Council took place on 24 January, 21 April, 21 June, 17 August and 29 December 2011.

Introduction to BRAC University

Introduction to BRAC University

Background

BRAC University was established in February 2001 by BRAC, one of the largest non-government development organizations in the world. BRAC works in areas such as poverty alleviation, rural health care and non-formal education among many others to bring about socio-economic changes for a large number of our people, mostly women and children, whose lives are dominated by extreme poverty, illiteracy, disease and malnutrition. BRAC recognizes that development strategies, information technology and effective management can play significant roles in modernizing Bangladesh and in securing meaningful jobs for the Bangladeshi workforce at home and abroad. In line with BRAC's continual support to education as a force of change and development, BRAC University (BRACU) was established in 2001 to provide a high quality education to meet the demands of the modern age. BRACU is accredited by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and approved by the Ministry of Education, Government of Bangladesh.

Mission

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

Goal

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

Scope

BRAC University provides instruction and confer degrees in various branches of the Humanities, Social Sciences and Science and Technology. In addition, the university offers Diploma and Certificate programs in various professional courses.

Organizational Structure

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

BRACU Anthem

জীবনের সিঁড়ি বেয়ে
উজ্জ্বল আগামীর পথে
আমরা এগিয়ে যাই
দেশ ও মানুষের জন্য ॥

হৃদয়ের মাঝে বয়ে চলা সুর
ছুঁয়ে যায় আমার অনুভব
আমার প্রিয় এ প্রাঙ্গনের
মিলিত প্রাণের স্পন্দনে ॥

অবারিত নীলিমায়
ডানা মেলে উড়ে যায়
হাজারো স্বপ্ন, প্রত্যাশা
এক হয়ে মিশে যাক
সৃষ্টিতে, চির তারুণ্য ॥

কথা ঃ আমির ইবনে শরীফ, স্নাতক, স্থাপত্য বিভাগ
সুর ঃ শামস্ মনসুর গনি, প্রভাষক, স্থাপত্য বিভাগ

Interpretation of Design of BRAC University Logo

The arc of circle suggests the wish to reach education to an international standard and milieu.

The symbolic presentation of three books towards the bottom of the design suggests different stages, levels and subjects of education. An all round boardbased education has been emphasized here. The suggestive drawing of open books stresses a disciplaned and dynamic development of education.

The three colors used in the design - blue, silver and black; the size and shape of the letters that spell BRAC University and the balanced presentation of the three books and the circle suggest that BRAC University is a strong and dynamic institution of international standard, dedicated to achieving the aims of education, peace, equality and discipline.

BRACU Logo Designed by renowed artist Mr. Hashem Khan.

Eleventh Year of BRAC University

First meeting of the Board of Trustees

The 1st meeting of the Board of Trustees, BRAC University (BoT) was held on 26 January 2011. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG, Chairperson, BRAC and Board of Trustees, BRACU chaired the meeting. BoT Members Mr. Faruq Ahmad Choudhury, Former Foreigh Secretry, Prof. Dilara Chowdhury, Former Professor, Department of Government and Politics, Jahangir Nagar University, Ms. Rasheda K. Chowdhury,



Executive Director, CAMPE, Ms. Tamara Hasan Abed, Director, Aarong, AAF, BDFP, Prof. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRACU, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRACU Mr. Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar, Treasurer, BRACU and Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU were present in the meeting. The Board took some important decision regarding the future development of the University.

First Meeting of the BRAC University Syndicate

The 1st meeting of the BRAC University Syndicate was held on Tuesday, 29 March 2011. Vice Chancellor, Professor Ainun Nishat chaired the meeting. The Syndicate discussed various academic and administrative issues and took important decisions for the perusal of the Board of Trustees. Syndicate members, member-secretary were present in the first meeting.



The 6th Convocation of BRACU



The 6th convocation of BRAC University was held on 7 February 2011 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. Education Minister, Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, was present as the Chief Guest while Ms. Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and an environmental activist, was the convocation speaker. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed was present as the special guest. BRAC University Vice Chancellor, Professor Ainun Nishat presided over the ceremony. A total of 497 students including 309 in undergraduate and 188 in postgraduate were given certificates at the 6th convocation.

Bangladesh/ India/ Pakistan: Building a Field of Scholarship and Dialogue on 1971

BDI organized an International workshop on "Bangladesh/ India /Pakistan: Building a field of Scholarship and Dialogue on 1971" on March 16-17, 2011 at the BRAC Centre, Dhaka. The year 1971 witnessed a unique event that can be described in many ways: as the Bangladesh Liberation War, as the implosion of Pakistan, as the largest genocide in South Asian history, as the first break-up of a post-colonial state. Not surprisingly, '71 continues to reverberate heavily in contemporary politics in South Asia and in the personal lives of millions of people in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan. The workshop aimed to allow for exchange and help break down

intellectual and social boundaries between researchers from a variety of perspectives and national backgrounds, facilitating a more smooth transition toward future research and even network formation.

BRACU CHONDROBOT at NASA

NASA had organized the 2nd Annual Lunabotics Mining Competition on May 23-28, 2011. It was a



world-wide university-level competition designed to engage and retain students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The challenge was to design remote controlled or autonomous excavators, or 'Lunabots' that have to collect and deposit lunar stimulant with some dimension and weight limitation. Around 48 teams from five countries, namely, the United States, Canada, India, Bangladesh and Columbia, participated for the 2011 competition. A 4-member BRAC University team represented Bangladesh. BRAC University Team with their robot named "BRACU CHONDROBOT" traveled to NASA in Cape Kennedy, Fl, USA and went up to be within top 13 participants world-wide.

BRAC University Turns 10

On 25 June 2011, BRAC University celebrated its 10th founding anniversary. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG, Chairperson of the BoT, was the Chief Guest, while Prof. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, the first VC of the University was the Special Guest. They both shared their experiences of the early days of the founding of the University and were happy to note the progress so far made. Among other guests, Mr. Faruq Ahmad Choudhury shared



his experience of being one of the advisors of BRAC University project in its initial years and having been a member of its Trustee Board since the establishment of the University. Prof. Ainun Nishat, VC, BRACU gave a brief account of ongoing development activities. He pointed out that BRAC University, in just a decade, has become an institution of choice for the students and is attracting increasing number of foreign students in its various programs. A few BRAC university alumni shared their success stories stressing on the role played by BRACU in their career development. The function was attended, among others, by Ms. Salma Khan, a member of the BoT. The program ended with the cutting of a cake to celebrate the occasion.

BRAC Business School received Asia's Best Business School Leadership Award



BRAC Business School received Asia's Best Business School Leadership Award presented by Singapore based CMO Asia with CMO Council as its Strategic Partner and Stars of the Industry Group as a research partner. Professor Dr Md Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRAC University received the award on behalf of the BRAC Business School in a ceremony on 22 July 2011 in Singapore. The event was attended by senior

leaders in education from top educational institutes from more than a dozen countries of Asia, Europe and the America.

BRAC University Library launched the first RFID system in Bangladesh



BRAC University Ayesha Abed Library is the first among the university libraries in Bangladesh to have launched the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system in the library. Professor Ainun Nishat, VC, BRAC University, inaugurated the RFID system on 30 October 2011. Library professionals from different universities and institutes, and faculty and students of BRAC attended the ceremony.

Workshop on Climate Change at BRAC University

Bangladesh falls among the most vulnerable countries that will be adversely affected by climate change. The geographical location, different ecological zones, overwhelming population, limited amount and distribution of resources will make the situation more challenging.



To develop skilled professionals for climate change data processing, interpretation and its appropriate implementation, the Department of Architecture, BRAC University has been collaborating with the Department of Civil and Building Engineering, Loughborough University, UK in a research named "Adaptable and Resilient Urban Built Environment (ARUBE)". The research is sponsored by British Council under INSPIRE project for 2011- 2014. Dhaka city has been chosen as the subject area of this research.

As a part of the project, a workshop was conducted on October 26-27, 2011 to train professionals on "Statistical Downscaling for Developing Climate Change Scenarios." This course focused on the use and application of a decision support tool for assessing local climate change impacts using a robust statistical downscaling technique. This can help in future built environment designs and strategic planning of a city. Dr Christian Dawson and Dr Robert Leonard Wilby from Loughborough University conducted the workshop. Academics and professionals from a large number of national and international organisations participated in the workshop.

CfL conducted English in Schools (EiS) workshops

Three workshops were conducted in October 2011 for the English in Schools (EiS) project by the faculty members of BRAC University Centre for Languages (BRACU-CfL) at BRAC Learning Centre (BLC) in Comilla, Madhupur and Srimangol. EiS prepares and publishes learning materials in English language in The Daily Star for the secondary school students of Bangladesh. CfL has been working with EiS for more than a year and gathered experience of preparing newspaper-based English learning materials. The aim of the workshops were to assess how familiar was the EiS pages among the stakeholders, and what measures to be taken to make the page more attractive so that it reached its intended target audience in the grass root level. The workshops included English teachers and students of the secondary schools, BRAC 'Chhatra Bandhu', 'Gono Kendo' librarians, BRAC's education managers and programme organizers.

Seminar on National Budget 2011-12

On 16 June 2011, Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS Dept.) and BRAC Development Institute (BDI) jointly organized a seminar titled "Budget: 2011-12: Reflections on the Macroeconomic Challenges". Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, distinguished fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) was the keynote speaker. Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro VC, BRACU, was the Chief Guest while Prof. Syed M Hashemi, Prof. S. R. Osmani, Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury, faculty members and students attended the seminar.



"Entrepreneur Speaks" Program by BRACU Business School

BRACU Business School (BBS) launched its premier program "Entrepreneur Speaks" recently in an informal ceremony. The program is supported by Prime Bank Limited, one of the leading scheduled banks of the country. Renowned entrepreneurs from all sectors of business, from micro-credit to large corporate: local and foreign, will be invited to share their stories of entrepreneurial achievements with the BBA, MBA and EMBA students of BRAC Business School. In his inaugural speech, Professor Ainun Nishat VC, BRACU emphasized the need to promote entrepreneurial activities rather than seeking employment. Programs like these heighten the important role that entrepreneurs play in advancing our economy and nation. Mr. M. Ehsanul Haque, Managing Director of Prime Bank Limited, who was the special guest, added that entrepreneurs achieve success through their rigorous effort, hard work, sincerity and commitment.

Prof Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro VC, BRACU, Professor Mamun Rashid, Director of Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED) at BRAC Business School also spoke at the ceremony. The senior officials from Prime Bank Limited were also present at this inaugural ceremony.



On 26 September 2011, the Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED) jointly with and Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF), both of BRACU, invited Ms. Geeteara Safia Choudhury, former Adviser to Interim Caretaker Government and Chairman & Managing Director, Adcomm Limited, as aGuest Speaker. Professor Ainun Nishat, VC, BRAC University welcomed the distinguished guest. Ms. Geeteara Safia Choudhury shared her struggles and successes as a woman entrepreneur with the students highlighting the obstacles she faced as a woman entrepreneur in the society.



David Graddol's Lecture at BRAC University



Centre for Languages (CfL) with the cooperation of British Council, Dhaka arranged a lecture on Future of English on 23 May 2011 at BRAC University auditorium. The lecture was delivered by David Graddol, a world renowned scholar, writer, broadcaster and lecturer The aim of the lecture was to define the global trends of English language teaching in order to communicate with native speakers and encourage understanding of other cultures.

World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development Visits BDI



The World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development Network, Ms. Inger Andersen visited BDI during her five day trip to Dhaka in February. During her visit, Ms. Andersen met with Professor Ainun Nishat, Professor Syed M. Hashemi, Dr Ferdous Jahan and Hossain Zillur Rahman to discuss BDI's MLARR project: what has been accomplished so far both in terms of the academic program and policy dialogue and future plans.

Mary Robinson visits reconstruction project at Syamnagar

Ms. Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland visited the reconstruction work of the BRAC University / BRAC project climate resilient habitat at Padmapukur cluster village of Syamnagar, Shatkhira that has been suffering the after effects of cyclone Aila for long. She was



accompanied by Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of the university, Professor Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson of Department of Architecture and Director of Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management and Dr. Mahaboob Hossain, Executive Director of BRAC. This project is funded by UNDP and implemented by BRAC. Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management and Department of Architecture of BRAC University are providing the technical support.

Chairperson of Pharmacy won TWAS Young Scientist Award, 2011



Professor Ashik Mosaddik, Chairperson, Pharmacy Department won the prestigious Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) award for the Young Scientists 2011. Under an agreement between the Bangladesh Aca-

demy of Sciences (BAS) and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS), on TWAS Prize for Young Scientist Scheme, the Academy nominates every year a number of young scientists (below 40 years) from Bangladesh based on their outstanding and academic research achievements.

Seminar on Tagore



Dr. Sugata Bose, the Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs at Harvard University, USA gave a talk entitled "The Idea of Asia in Tagore" on 19 January 2011. In his paper, Bose talked about Rabindranath's voyages to various Asian countries such as China, Japan, Indonesia, Iran and Burma. According to him, Tagore wanted to see universalism in individual identity of these countries. He imagined Asia as a border free united continent with each of the countries having its own individual culture, art, and literature

Conference on 40 Years of Bangladesh

The Institute of Governance Studies organized an International Conference on "40 Years of Bangladesh: Retrospect and Future Prospects" from 26-28 November 2011. The launching ceremony of the conference took place at BRAC Centre Inn while the rest at BRAC BCDM, Savar, Khagan. The chief guest at the launching ceremony was Justice Habibur Rahman and special guest was Dr. Gowher Rizvi. The purpose of the conference was to highlight the Governance of Bangladesh in the last 40 years, its success and failure and to suggest a way forward. The seminar was attended by a large number of academics and professionals from around the globe.

BRAC University Hosts IACSS International Conference:



BRAC University hosted this year's Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society (IACSS) international conference titled "Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements" on December 17-18, 2011. Professor Dr. A.K. Azad Chowdhury (State Minister), Chairperson, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh was the chief guest of the inaugural session of the conference. The conference was participated by around 65 international participants from countries like Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, China, USA and India. About 200 guests and 150 participants attended the two-day conference.



Academic Programs

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Academic Programs

BRAC University (BRACU) was established in February 2001. It is a broad-based academic institution that provides undergraduate and graduate degrees through the following programs:

Undergraduate Programs

1. Bachelor of Architecture
2. Bachelor of Arts in English
3. Bachelor of Business Administration
4. Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
5. Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering
6. Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communication Engineering
7. Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
8. Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics and Electronics
9. Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
10. Bachelor of Science in Physics
11. Bachelor of Social Science in Economics
12. Bachelor of Laws
13. Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)
14. BSc in Biotechnology
15. BSc in Microbiology

Graduate Programs

1. Master of Arts in English
2. Master of Science in Applied Economics
3. Master in Biotechnology
4. Master of Business Administration
5. Master in Bank Management
6. Executive MBA
7. Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
8. Master of Engineering (M.Engg.) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
9. Master of Public Health
10. Master of Development Studies
11. Master in Governance and Development
12. Master of Science in Early Childhood Development
13. Master in Disaster Management
14. Master in Development Management & Practice

Postgraduate Diploma and Certificate Programs

1. Postgraduate Certificate in Disaster Management
2. Postgraduate Diploma in Disaster Management
3. Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Development
4. Postgraduate Diploma and Certificate in Early Childhood Development
5. Postgraduate Diploma in Macroeconomic Analysis

Partners in Education

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

BRAC Business School

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

James P Grant School of Public Health

- Beijing National and Guangxi Provincial Centres for Diseases Control, China
- Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, USA
- Department of Clinical Medicine, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda
- George Washington University, USA
- Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University, USA
- Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK

- Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, USA
- National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM), Bangladesh
- School of Medical Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana
- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, Kerala, India
- University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- University of Heidelberg, German
- University of Illinois at Springfield, USA
- University of Nagasaki, Japan

Department of Architecture

- University of Illinois, Chicago, USA

Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management

- Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Thailand
- Asian University Network of Environment and Disaster Management (AUEDM)
- Katmandu University, Nepal
- Kyoto University, Japan
- Northumbria University, UK

Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

- Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC)

- BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- BRACARDC, Gazipur, Bangladesh
- CNRS, CEA, Grenoble, France
- ICDDR,B, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh

BRAC Development Institute

- American University of Cairo, Egypt
- Bahia University, Brazil
- Colgate University, New York
- Columbia University, New York
- Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University
- Hohai University, Nanjing, China
- Ottawa University, Canada
- School for Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London
- Uganda Martyrs University (UMU), Uganda
- Universided de los Andes, Bogota, Colombia
- University of Ghana
- University of Manchester
- University of Toronto
- University of Western Cape, South Africa

Institute of Educational Development

- Aga Khan Foundation, Canada
- Columbia University, New York, USA
- George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA
- National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi
- Open Society Institute - London
- Portland State University, USA
- University of Massachusetts, USA
- University of Sussex, UK
- Victoria University, Canada
- Yale University, USA

Institute of Governance Studies

- Basel Institute of Governance, Basel University, Switzerland
- George Mason University, USA
- Griffith University, Australia
- Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management, Seoul, Korea
- Monash University, Australia
- University of Manitoba, Canada

Centre for Languages

- King Sejong Institute, South Korea.
- Ministry of Cultural Affairs, The People's Republic of China.

Department of Architecture

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Department of Architecture

The Department of Architecture started its journey in Spring 2002 with 15 students and 3 members of the faculty. However, over the years, it has grown and now has 230 students and 16 full-time well-qualified members of the faculty. The department offers a 203 credits undergraduate degree in architecture, and by now it has produced 83 graduates through its 5-year degree program.

The objective of the department is to ensure high quality education. The size of the student intake is limited to 25-30 only. The admission process is based on competition. Within the short span of time, the department has earned a reputation for high quality architectural education with the help of teachers of exceptional academic and professional background. The design studios, the vital part of the curriculum are taught by 2 to 3 teachers. Thus, excellent 1:10 teacher-student ratio is maintained. The external faculty members who are highly qualified and renowned in their respective fields teach design studios and courses on various architecture related subjects, such as painting, photography, sculpture and music appreciation.

The academic atmosphere is characterized by rich co-curricular activities and a lively cultural life. It includes the Angan lecture series, Archkids outreach program for children and the student cultural forum "Moitree". The department also organizes exhibition of the students' work and design charrettes'. These develop inter-university communication and further the interest of the students to strive for excellence. Practical training is a part of the curriculum. Students are required to complete a semester of professional training in architectural offices. The training is transboundary in nature. Besides Bangladesh, the students undergo this training in India, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia and U.S. A. The department enjoys the privilege of students and staff exchange with several European Universities under EMMA (Erasmus Mundus Mobility with Asia) and with the School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Chicago.



The department undertakes research programs in different areas. It has done so in association with the Research and Education division of BRAC, the British Council, the University of Manchester, Loughborough University, Hoge School Van Amsterdam etc. The students are encouraged to work on research projects to get them acquainted with the real world. The department also offers consulting services for various organizations. Prototype design of cyclone shelter for BRAC, interior design of university facilities, disaster resilient housing at Noakhali for IUCN and post disaster housing reconstruction in the Sidr affected areas are some examples.

Conference / Seminar/ Symposium



Sharing views by Professor Fuad H Mallick at the "Post Award Seminar"

- Professor Fuad H Mallick was invited to be a panelist at the "Post Award Seminar" of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, held at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China on 1 April, 2011. The seminar was a follow up of the 2010 award cycle of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. Professor Mallick was a technical reviewer for the award cycle and the "Bridge School" in Fujian, China reviewed by him was one of the 5

projects that received the award. Prof. XiaodongLi the architect of the project was amongst the panelists along with Prof. Zhang Li, Prof. George Kunihiro, Prof. Laurence Liawau and Architect Kevin Low.

- Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, senior lecturer, Department of Architecture presented a paper in a conference organized by the Department of Landscape, Sheffield University, UK on 7 - 10 September 2011. The theme of the conference was 'Aesthetics and Ethics' in landscape architecture. In his paper, Kabir argued about 'Aesthetics of Development' taking case of a small urban garden of Bangladesh. The title of his paper was, "Understanding aesthetics through sowing seeds, not only in the soil: a homestead garden in an urban "slum"".



Sharing experiences by Mr. Kabir

- Professor Fuad H Mallick attended and made a presentation at the Dealing with Disasters conference held at Glamorgan University in Wales, UK on 28 November, 2011. His presentation was entitled "Towards a Disaster Resilient Habitat" which highlighted the BRACU - BRAC project in building a disaster resilient habitat in the Aila effected area in Satkhira. The conference was attended by academics and researchers from all over the world.

- Risal Ahmed, a graduate of the Department of Architecture and Tahmina Rahman, Research Assistant of Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management presented papers at the "Technical Design for Community Adapted Affordable Housing" an international expert symposium on affordable climate-resilient housing design for southwest Bangladesh held during 24 - 26 January, 2011 at Agargaon, Dhaka. Risal's presentation was on the community participation based on the project "Climate Change/ Disaster Resilient Habitat" on Padmapukur cluster village, a cyclone 'Aila' affected area at Shyamnagar, Shatkhira. This is being implemented by the Department of Architecture, BRAC University and BRAC. Tahmina's presentation was on behalf of Practical Action study team on the findings of the social aspects of disaster affected communities at Shatkhira and Morrelganj that are cyclone Sidr and Aila affected areas.

Workshop / Training

- Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) held three workshops on disaster risk reduction from the 23 -27 May 2011. These workshops were funded by the British Council through the DelPHE Project to the Department of Geography. The facilitators were Dr. Andrew Collins, the Director of the Disaster and Development Centre at Northumbria University (UK), Dr Bernard Manyena, a lecturer and Research Associate at Northumbria University (UK) and Mr Md. Hafizul Hasan, Lecturer from BRAC University, Bangladesh. Both Northumbria and BRAC University are partners in the DelPHE Project of the Bindura University.

- Ar. Hasibul Kabir, and Ar. A.K.M. Sirajuddin Raju, senior lecturers, Department of Architecture were awarded fellowships to attend a training program on "Urban Rain Water Harvesting" from 8 -12 September, 2011 at BRAC-CDM, Savar. Water Aid Bangladesh, in collaboration with Center for Science and



Presentation by Mr. Hasan at Three DelPHE Workshops

Environment (CSE) India organized the program. There were thirty five participants from different government departments and other universities.

- Ar. Rahat M Niaz, and Ar. Shajjad Hossain, lecturers, Department of Architecture were awarded fellowships to attend a training program on "Decentralised Wastewater Treatment and Reuse" from 12-15 December, 2010 at BRAC-CDM, Savar. Water Aid Bangladesh, in collaboration with Center for Science and Environment (CSE) India organized the program. There were thirty five participants from different government departments and other universities.





Architecture students in Hands-on Building Workshop

- Eight students from the Department of Architecture, BRAC University participated in a hands-on construction workshop in a village of Dinajpur. The workshop was organized jointly by Housing and Hazard (H&H) group of UK and SAFE, a CBO of Bangladesh.

In the workshop the students worked with local builders and with engineers and architects from UK. The outcome of the workshop was a house built with mainly using compressed cement-stabilized mud blocks. After the workshop the students, Dr Robert Hodgson of H&H and Azit Roy of SAFE shared their experiences with other students and faculties at the Department of Architecture, BRAC University on 26 September 2011.





SDSM (Statistical downscaling model) Workshop

- Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, senior lecturer and Md. Shajjad Hossain, lecturer, Department of Architecture attended an International Workshop titled "[Re] visiting Ramna/[Re]mapping the place" from 11-14 September, 2011 at BUET. The workshop was jointly organized by Katholieke University Leuven, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB). Thirty Participants from Belgium, Srilanka and Bangladesh attended the workshop.

- A two-day training workshop on "Statistical Downscaling for Developing Climate Change Scenarios" was held on October 26 - 27, 2011 in BRAC University, as a part of the research project under Inspire. Loughborough University and Department of Architecture in collaboration with Center for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER) under the BRAC University has arranged the workshop, which was funded by the British Council. The training workshop was conducted by Dr Robert Leonard Wilby, Professor, Department of Geography and Dr Christian Dawson, senior lecturer, Department of Computer Science, Loughborough University. Twenty seven

participants from twelve different organizations such as IUCN Bangladesh, Institute of Water Modelling, Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO), MoWR, Dhaka, Centre for Environmental and Geographic information Services (CEGIS), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) Zimbabwe, Dhaka University, State University of Bangladesh, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), BRAC University attended the workshop. Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University was present in the inauguration ceremony which was held on 26th October morning in BRAC centre INN. After the inauguration, main sessions of the workshop were held in the Computer lab of the Department of Architecture, BRAC University. In closing session of this training, Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University distributed certificates to participants. Ben Isaac, Project Delivery Manager, British Council, Dhaka, Professor Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson of the Department of Architecture, BRAC University were present in the closing session.



Students and teachers of Architecture took part in a multi-University project on Beltola slum, Dhaka

- 22 students of the Departments of Architecture, Water Management and Geography from Hogeschool van Amsterdam, HvA [architecture, water management], BRAC University [architecture], Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology, AUST [architecture], Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, BUET [water management] and University of Dhaka [geography] had embarked on a collaborative research project titled 'architecture, urbanism and water management of low cost housing in the Beltola Slum, Mirpur, Dhaka'. They were guided by Prof. Bert van der Weil and Rutger Hogezand [HvA], Prof Zainab Faruqui Ali and K. Hasibul Kabir [BRAC University], Prof. Nazem [Centre of Urban Studies (CUS), University of Dhaka], Shuja Khan, Shezad Zahir, Imran [AUST]. This is one of those rare projects where various university students joined to work on a collaborative research project. In small multidisciplinary teams, they surveyed the slum on various aspects for a week. The second week was spent on workshops at AUST and BRACU leading to design suggestions on improved architecture, urbanism and water management for the site. At the final presentation of their projects on 26 October 2011 at CB 901, Professor Ainun Nishat, the Vice Chancellor, Chairperson, Department of Architecture, teachers of the participating universities, students and representatives of the Beltola slum were present. The teams are now preparing a publication on this special work.

- Md. Shajjad Hossain, lecturer, Department of Architecture participated in the "Post Training Follow Up Sharing" with respected fellows who participated in the international training courses on URWHS and DEWAT held from 24 - 27 October 2010 and 12 - 15 December 2010 at Savar BCDM. The event held at Savar BCDM from 27 - 28 March 2011.

- On 25 July, Shakil Ahmad, teaching assistant of the Department of Architecture conducted a demonstration on two softwares 'VELUX' and 'EcoTech' for day light analysis of a design to the faculty members of the department. These two softwares are computer based lighting simulations which can aid a designer to analyze

the opportunity of daylight of a real time environment and can help to design an eco friendly green building. It should be mentioned Shakil Ahmad took part in a workshop at BUET on computer based lighting simulation techniques on June 17-18, 2011. This demonstration is basically the sharing session of his learning from the workshop.

ANGAN Lecture

- An ANGAN lecture was delivered by Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell, founder members of WOHA on 28 March 2011 at 5.30pm in Indoor Games room of BRAC University. In this lecture, the architects



ANGAN Lecture by Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell

discussed some of their projects. WOHA's architecture is notable for its constant evolution and innovation. WOHA has won a number of architectural awards for their works. They received the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2007 for their project, Moulmein Rise, they collected two awards in the RIBA International Awards of 2010 for The Met and Bras Basah MRT Station, and they won the International High-rise Award 2010 for The Met. A large number of students from BRACU and other universities, faculty, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University and practicing architects were present at the event.

- Three lecture sessions were conducted in the month of November under the Angan Lecture series of the Department of Architecture. Md. Nafizur Rahman, Senior Research Architect of Housing Division of HBRI delivered a lecture on the current research works of Housing and Building Research Institute (HBRI) on 15 November, 2011. The next lecture was made by Mr. Ahsan Habib, eminent cartoonist of Bangladesh on 22nd November, 2011. The last lecture was given by Sloan Kulper, a Fulbright Fellow from USA on 24th November. Based on his academic research work in Bangladesh, he made a presentation, titled 'A possible future for design in Bangladesh'.

ANGAN Travel Sketch

- Sajid-Bin-Doza, Senior lecturer discussed and shared his experiences in Venice, Rome and Florence tour in two ANGAN Travel Sketches on 22 February, 2011 and 20 September, 2011. Mr. Doza stated his experience about Venice, Rome and Florence and their significance through colorful images.

Demonstration lectures on 'Music Appreciation'

- 'Music Appreciation' a course in the Department of Architecture, BRAC University organized several demonstration lectures throughout the semester. On 23 October, 2011, Shaheen Samad, a renowned singer of Nazrul Geeti in Bangladesh gave a demonstration lecture on Nazrul songs. On 13 November, 201, Shamim Ara Nipa, the famous dancer who participated in many performances in and outside Bangladesh gave a demonstration on dance. This was followed by the performances of Saadi Mohammad, one of the leading Tagore singers and Mustafa Zaman Abbasi, son of Late Abbas Uddin Ahmed, an icon of Bengali folk music. They delivered demonstration lectures on Rabindra Sangeet and Folk Music on 20 - 27 November 2011 respectively. The aim of such arrangement is to enhance the student's understanding and appreciation of music. All these lectures were open to all students and faculties of BRAC University. The course is taught by Sadi Mohammad, Professor Zainab F. Ali and Rabeya Rahman.

Awards

- Faisal Bhuiyan (ID 07208009) won the Travel Bursary for 2010. Faisal traveled Malaysia for two weeks and offered a thoughtful presentation to the students in the ANGAN Lecture Series, based on his visit in Malaysia. Faisal received a certificate of award from Architect Rafiq Azam, Principal, Shatatto: Architecture for Green Living. Professor Fuad H Mallick also present in the occasion.

- Sumaiya Rufida Islam of Junior I and Sonia Kamal of Junior II, from the Department of Architecture won the 2nd and 3rd prize respectively, in an Open Student Design Charrette. The day-long competition was open for the students of architecture and interior design, and arranged by the Department of Architecture, Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology on 12 May, 2011.

- Ishita Alam Abonee, Mahmuda Alam, Shareq Rauf Chowdhury, three students from the Department of Architecture with Azit Roy and John Arnold received an award (the 4th position) in the competition, "The $300 House" organized by Vijoy Govindarajan and Christian Sarkar, in partnership with an internet based community "Jovoto". The students are working on developing low-income housing options with the people of a slum in Dinajpur town under the guidance of Azit Roy and John Arnold from a local NGO, SAFE.

Here is the link of the competition and the award:
http://www.jovoto.com/contests/300house/ideas/12816#commentbox



"The $300 House" competition winning team

- Two teams from the Department of Architecture won in Treasure Hunt, a game show arranged by Escapade Organization on 3 - 4 June, 2011. Radio Today, Channel I, Rong and Ritu, Diamond World, were the sponsors of the event. The winning team was "LAM" with team members Zerin Tasnim Khan, Mahmuda Alam, Mohshin Shamsher Aranna. Another team "JHIRI" stood second where the team members were Tashdid Rezwan Mugdho, Anika Hoque, Tasnim Ferdous. They all are junior II students. The students won a diamond ring each.

Exhibition

- Senior Lecturer Khondaker Hasibul Kabir's garden landscape "Ashar Macha" (Platform of Hope) at Karail, Dhaka has been a part of a travelling exhibition "[re] designing nature, Current Concepts for Shaping Nature in Art and



"Ashar Macha" (Platform of Hope) at Karail,

Landscape Architecture". The exhibition started on 25 November, 2010 and will continue for two years travelling to Vienna, Berlin, London and other large cities of Europe. Works of contemporary landscape architects and artists have been selected where landscaping has been used as a tool for ecological protections for the urban peripheral communities. The garden has been and is continuously in participation with

the inhabitants of the community, Kabir and the students. The exhibition is supplemented with photographs, write up and an 8 minute documentary directed and produced by the young film maker Quamrul Hasan.

- The 4th year architecture students of BRAC University organized an exhibition of their design works at the ground floor of the university building at the end of fall 2010 semester. The event was an effort to share knowledge and ideas to solve urban low-income housing problems,which exhibited





Exhibition of Design Works

innovative design proposals of such housing for a community of cobblers and broom-makers at Dakshin Rishipotti, Bhairab. The exhibition ran from 2- 9 December and was visited by many enthusiasts including students, teachers, foreign delegates, renowned architects, development activists, the mayor of Bhairab and also the people from the community for whom the exercise was done. This project is a part of the collaboration with the University of Manchester, UK and the research program "Climate change and urban poverty in Bangladesh" (ClimUrb).

New Faculty

- Architect A.K.M. Sirajuddin joined BRACU as senior lecturer on January 09, 2011. He has completed Master in Human Settlements with distinction from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KULeuven), Belgium with VLIR (Flemish Interuniversity Council) Scholarship. His research work titled "(Re) Claiming a Water City: Visions for Dhaka." Mr Sirajuddin graduated from BUET and later, attended an advanced post graduation course on Architecture, Energy and Environment at Lund University, Sweden with a fellowship from SIDA. He taught in Khulna University and afterward served as faculty in Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology and North South University. Mr. Sirajuddin also has worked as architect consultant. He, in a group of three architects, won the first prize in the competition held for "National Independence Monument (Shadhinota Stambha)" at Suhrawardi Uddyan, Dhaka.



A.K.M. Sirajuddin

- Suhailey Farzana joined as an Architectural assistant in the department on 2 October, 2011. She completed her Bachelor of Architecture (BArch.) program from BRACUniversity in summer 2011. Her final year thesis project was "Center for Contemporary Art". She studied in USA as an exchange student under the program of "The Study of the United States Institutes (SUSI) for Student Leaders Program" in summer 2008. Her internship was in "Vastu-shilpa Consultant", the office of renowned Indian Architect B V Doshi. She is also very actively involved in youth based social organization name "Community Action".



Suhailey Farzana

Study tour

- Department of Architecture arranged a study tour under the course Arc 327: History of Art and Architecture of Bengal for the students of 3rd year 1st and 2nd semesters, named 'Explore Ancient North'. The two days long study visit was aimed at intense observation and identification in the Northern part of Bangladesh.



Study tour

26 students participated in this event. The tour executed with assignment, documentation, lectures and preliminary identification process of historical building. The Varind Track, that is Pundrabardhan-Bogura, Paharpur-Nawgaon, Rajshahi, Choto Sona Mosque, Darasbari, Shah Niamatullah mosque complex at Shibgonj and Puthia Temple complex were the focal points of the study tour. Students will prepare group presentation on the information collected.

- Students of the course ARC 201- Design Studio III visited Gazipur on 24 November, 2011 on a day- long trip. They visited a contemporary project; Mr. Majid's vacation house. Three Faculty members Sajid Bin Doza, Rubaiya Sultana and Rahat Mujib Niaz accompanied the students. The Vacation house was designed by architect Shamsul Wares. The tour was arranged to study the project in the context of their assigned project.

Faculty leaves for higher studies

- Md. Shajjad Hossain, Lecturer left for doing his Master of Human Settlements in Katholieke University Leuven, Belgium. He received VLIR scholarship to carry out the program in KU Leuven.

Other Events

- Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland visited the reconstruction work of the BRAC University / BRAC project climate resilient habitat on 8 February, 2011 at Padmapukur cluster village of Syamnagar, Shatkhira that has been suffering the after effects of cyclone Aila for long. She was accompanied by Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of the university,



Mary Robinson visits reconstruction project at Syamnagar

Professor Fuad H Mallick, Chairperson of Department of Architecture and Director of Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management, Dr. Mahbub Hossain, Executive Director of BRAC, Dr. Babar Kabir, Director of BRAC WASH and DECC and Dr Tania Zaman, Director, Chairperson's Office. This project is funded by UNDP and implemented by BRAC. Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management and Department of Architecture of BRAC University are providing the technical support. A brief of the visit narrated by Mary Robinson can be found in the BRAC website at http://www.brac.net/node/834.
It may be mentioned that Mary Robinson is engaged in various initiatives concerning human rights; her latest venture has been launching of "Mary Robinson Foundation for Climate Justice".

- WOHA, one of the Southeast Asia's best known architectural firms was founded by Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell in 1994. Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell visited The Department of Architecture, BRAC University from 26-28 March, 2011. The department is the first of its kind to be honored by the visit of such

globally famous and internationally acclaimed architects who spent their entire tour here. They conducted a design charrette, met some important Bangladeshi architects and delivered an ANGAN lecture.



Design Charrette

- Department of Architecture, BRACU organized a design charrette on 27 March, 2011. 16 students from different design studios of the Department of Architecture participated in this workshop. The idea of that charrette was to think up an architectural concept to accommodate "The sea level rising, the earth is submerging". As the member of Urban Renewal Authority (URA) design advisory panels of Singapore, Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell shared their insights and experiences with the students.

- A group of students of the Department of Architecture voluntarily participated to decorate the interior walls of workspace of hospital and blood bank of the Bangladesh Thalassemia Foundation. BTF is a nonprofit organization helping and supporting Thalassemia patients in Bangladesh. Muhammad Nafisur Rahman, lecturer of the Department of Architecture was the team leader of this activity.

Department of English and Humanities

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Department of English and Humanities






The Department of English and Humanities is the creative core of the University. With the help of its three streams: Literature, Linguistics & ELT and Media, the Department fosters the imaginative, observational, analytical and communicative skills of its students.

The Literature concentration introduces students to a wide variety of English writing from different historical periods and regions and aims to inculcate a strong analytical orientation, encouraging students to contextualize literary works in relation to their historical and cultural realities.

The Linguistics and ELT concentration offers an understanding and analysis of language both as an acquired skill and a socio-cultural phenomenon, introducing students to different theories of language and their application in real life for English language teaching and beyond.

The interdisciplinary nature of the Media and Cultural Studies concentration equips students with an orientation based on the origin and evolution of "media", study of cultural theories and an awareness of power-plays and world politics, enabling them to interpret the ever-changing cultural traditions and gain insights into global events and universal or personal experiences.

The undergraduate students excel in their final year, when they have to write a dissertation or a report of the internship done in a relevant organization. This exercise helps them to gain confidence and focus on the application of the knowledge and training they receive in their previous years in the University.

The postgraduate program for the degree of M.A. in English has two streams: Literature and Linguistics & ELT. In their literature concentration, students get exposed to a wide variety of subjects like postcolonialism, feminism, postmodernism and the many dimensions of contemporary literature, making it a unique literature programme in Bangladesh. The linguistics & ELT concentration also equips the students with a deep understanding of English as a language and the different approaches adopted towards English teaching.

Being a relatively small department helps the ENH Department teachers to maintain close contact with the students, whereas the students get the advantage of personal care and individual feedback. The faculty members, senior students and junior students often engage in discussions, seminars and even organize different events together, ensuring a firm relationship between all the members of the Department.

Seminars, Conferences and Workshops Organized by ENH

The Idea of Asia in Tagore (January 2011)

The Department of English and Humanities began its year with the celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of Tagore, by inviting Dr. Sugata Bose, the Gardiner Professor of Oceanic



History and Affairs at Harvard University, USA, who gave a talk, entitled "The Idea of Asia in Tagore" on 19th January, 2011. In his paper, Bose discussed Tagore's voyages to various Asian countries such as China, Japan, Indonesia, Iran and Burma. He showed how Tagore wanted to see universalism in the individual identities of these countries.

Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements

The biggest highlight for the ENH Department in the year 2011 was organizing the Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society (IACSS) conference titled "Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements" that took place on the 17th and 18th December. This international conference was graced by the participation of around 65 international participants coming from countries like Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, China, USA and India. About 200 guests and 150 participants attended the two-day conference. The event was arranged by the Chairperson of ENH, Professor Firdous Azim, with the help of all the faculty members of ENH, ESS and BDI.



Inaugural Session

The keynotes of the conference were presented by Ashish Rajadhyaksha, Senior Fellow, Centre for the Study of Culture and Society (CSCS), Bangalore, India and Professor Perween Hasan, Vice Chancellor, Central Women's University, Dhaka. This session was chaired by Professor Kuan Hsing Chen from the Graduate Institute for Social Research and Cultural Studies, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan.



Keynote speakers with the chair of the session

A special panel titled "Culture, Health and Development" by the James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University was held on the second day of the conference. The second day of the conference was also made memorable by the mesmerizing dance performance by Shadhona-A



Centre for Advancement of South Asian Culture, titled "Fireflies", which incorporated a selection of haikus by Rabindranath Tagore. Along with the academic papers, there was an exhibition space with posters of Naripokkho and Bangladesh Mahila Parishad. Pathways of Women's Empowerment of BDI and Safia Azim displayed their previously published photographs in this exhibition as well. A booth was set for constant screening of several short films made by BRAC Development Institute (BDI), and BRAC University students. "Paathshala" had their separate digital display titled "New Waves" in the exhibition.



This conference was preceded by the Steering Committee Meeting of the IACSS Consortium on 16th December 2011 at the GDLN centre, BRAC University. The conference ended with the closing of Consortium for Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Institutions (CIACSI).

The Seminar Series

The Ekphrastic Paragone in Louise Bogan and Marianne Moore (June 2011)

On 2nd June 2011, ENH re-launched its lecture series with the talk by Nausheen Naz Eusuf, Lecturer, ENH. Ms. Eusuf has recently completed her MA in English from the University of Georgia, USA. Her talk, titled "The Ekphrastic Paragone in Louise Bogan and Marianne Moore," is a part of her M.A. thesis.



When the Woman Speaks (June 2011)

On 22nd June 2011, ENH organized the second session of its lecture series. In this session, Sohana Manzoor, Sr. Lecturer, ENH presented her paper titled "When the Woman Speaks: A Reading of Christina Rossetti's "Repining" and "Autumn" as Responses to Tennyson's "Lady of Shalott"". The presenter, Ms. Manzoor, is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, USA.



Reading Joyce through Beckett (November 2011)

ENH invited the young film maker, Khalid Sheikh, a literature graduate from the University of Sussex, to present a couple of lectures on Samuel Beckett in November. His first lecture titled "A Close Reading and Comparative Analysis of Beckett's short story "The End Game"" took place on 15th November, 2011. His second lecture titled "Reading Joyce through Beckett: the Preoccupation with the Subject" was held on 23rd November, 2011.

Guest Lectures

News Editing (February 2011)

Quamrul Hassan, Senior Sub-Editor, The Daily Sun delivered a lecture to the "English for Print Media" (ENG 440) class on 3rd February 2011. He shared his professional experience as a journalist with the students while giving tips on news and report editing. The students edited raw news reports with the guest lecturer and shared their views on writing news reports.

Popular Bangla Cinema (March 2011)

Dr. Zakir Hossain Raju, Associate Professor at the Department of Media and Communication, Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) was invited to the "Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice" (ENG 331) class on 3rd March, 2011. His lecture on "Popular Bengali Cinema" was about the history of Bangladeshi film production and its present state.

Computer Assisted Language Learning (November 2011)

On 12th December 2011, Senjuti Masud, ELT Producer, BBC Learning English and World Service Trust, Bangladesh came to the M.A.

class of "Computer Assisted Language Learning" (ENG 646) as the guest lecturer. She shared how with the help of technology, BBC has been playing an important role in making animations and television programs based on real life situations to teach the common people English.

Participation in Conferences and Workshops

On 27th January, two faculty members and a graduate student of ENH presented papers in the day-long conference arranged by the Department of English, Stamford University Bangladesh, titled, "Language and Literature Teaching: Exploring Opportunities and Facing the Challenges". A paper titled "The RJ Style: Brought to you by Bangladeshi FM Radio" was presented by Sabreena Ahmed and Farhana Zamil jointly. Mushira Habib, Teaching Assistant, ENH, presented her paper titled "Black Desires, White Beauties", which looked at Frantz Fanon's notions of the fear-desire dichotomy working in the relationships between black men and white women, emphasizing two novels, V.S. Naipaul's A Bend in the River and David Dabydeen's The Intended.

On 11th May 2011, Prof. Firdous Azim, Chairperson, ENH participated in a panel discussion in the seminar titled "Postcolonialism Now", organised by the Department of English, Dhaka University.

Prof. Azim chaired a plenary session in the international conference organized by the Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, titled, "Thinking 'other-wise' with/in English Studies", which took place from the 13th to the 14th May 2011. ENH lecturer, S.M. Mohibul Hasan, presented his paper titled "The Empowerment of Ethnic Minorities, Lower Class and Women in Bharadwaj's Omkara" in this conference. Fatema Tuz Zahra, another lecturer from ENH presented a joint paper with Shakil Sarforaz Rabbi, Lecturer, East West University, titled, "English Language Instruction in Madrasah Classrooms in Bangladesh". Mushira Habib, Teaching Assistant from ENH presented her paper titled "Culture and Imperialism in The Adventures of Tintin" in the same conference.

ENH faculty members, Ms. Rukhsana Rahim Chowdhury and Ms. Mushira Habib, accompanied by two MA students, Anika Mahin and Fatema Johera Ahmed, attended a two day workshop entitled "Postcolonized" on the 15th and 16th May 2011, organised by Department of English, Jahangirnagar University. Dr. Sharmila Sen of Harvard University conducted this workshop.

Sabreena Ahmed, lecturer of ENH, presented her paper, "Same old, same old: from boring to creative presentation" in the 5th International BELTA Conference, 2011 from the 20th to the 22nd of May, organised by Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) and English in Action and Funded by UK Aid.

On the 21st and 22nd May 2011, Professor Firdous Azim chaired a session titled "Gender and Anthropological Studies" in the conference titled "Anthropology in the 21st Century and 25 years of Anthropology in Bangladesh", organized by the Department of Anthropology, Jahangirnagar University to commemorate the 23rd founding anniversary of the department.

Professor Azim also attended a meeting on "Gender Knowledge Production" in Kathmandu, Nepal from the 15th to the 16th July, 2011. This meeting was hosted by Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay of the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) based in the Netherlands and Sahayog based in New Delhi.

On 18th June 2011, Ms. Asifa Sultana, lecturer at the Department of English and Humanities, attended a day long workshop titled "Working with Children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs" organised by Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation and facilitated by Ms. Claire Leadbeater, a speech language therapist from the UK.

Prof. Firdous Azim, Chairperson ENH, was one of the respondents to the paper titled "Contemporary Bangladeshi Poetry" delivered by Prof. Khondakar Ashraf Hossain of Department of English, Dhaka University, at the "International Literary Conference 2011" organised by the Bangla Academy on 26th June 2011.

Workshops Held in the Department

Dwelling in Possibility: A Workshop on the Art of Creative Writing

Tarfia Faizullah, a Fulbright fellow, working with the ENH department, began her series of creative writing workshops with BRAC University students on 25th January 2011. In three consecutive sessions she asked the students to read and discuss poems, short stories, and non-fiction with an eye toward writing their own. They also participated in in-class writing exercises, and learnt to collaborate with each other. The vision of these workshops was to bring out the student-run creative writing journal by the end of that semester.

Celebrations: A Creative Writing Workshop

On 21st July, a creative writing workshop was organised by ENH to help the students gain inspirations from their everyday lives to write. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Nausheen Naz Eusuf, Lecturer, ENH. As the theme of this workshop was 'Celebration', the workshop focused on finding ways to celebrate people, places and things that surround us in our everyday lives.

More Events in the Department

Launching of Resonance (April 2011)

On April 10, 2011 ENH launched *Resonance*, the first online creative writing journal of BRAC University, run by students. This journal was an outcome of the vision of ENH Chairperson, Prof. Firdous Azim and the dedication of Rukhsana Rahim Chowdhury, Sr. Lecturer of ENH. Groomed in a few workshops, the students from all over BRACU contributed in this edition of the journal and worked hard to arrange the inauguration as well. In order to encourage the students more, noted author Syed Manzurul Islam read out from his novel based on our Liberation War, *Song of Our Swampland.*

Second Issue of Resonance (November 2011)

The second issue of Resonance was launched on 27th November 2011. Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam, an inspiration for students writing in both Bangla and English graced the occasion by reading out fragments of his work to the students.

Celebrating Shakespeare

The students of the "Shakespeare" (ENG 217) course organised a phenomenal performance to commemorate the 447th birthday of the Bard on 13th April 2011 under the supervision of the course teacher, Ms. Rukshana Rahim Chowdhury. The students acted out a few selected scenes from a selection of Shakespearean plays and a sonnet, paying tribute to the legend as well as their course.





Course Closure Performance

On 7th December 2011, students of "Composition-I" (ENG 102) put up a performance showcasing all the elements of the course. The highlight of the programme was a Bangladeshi adaptation of Guy de Maupassant's short story, "The Necklace". The event included recitation of poems taught in the course and launching of a wall magazine by the students.

Meet the Writers

Saleha Chowdhury (March 2011)

On 13th March 2011, ENH invited Saleha Chowdhury for sharing her experience as a Bangladeshi writer, who has been living in the UK for the last 30 years. Saleha Chowdhury has won the "Ananya Award Literature" in 2009 for her short stories. Saleha Chowdhury has also translated many English books and essays into Bangla. ENH students acted out her short story "Ekjon Punk O Gulshan Ara" taken from her collection of short stories Shatagalpa. A collage of her Bangla story "Attoja" and its English translation titled "The Daughter" was also read out by the students of ENH.



ENH students performing *Ekjon Punk O Gulshan Ara.* Saleha Chowdhury

Lijia Zhang (August 2011)

On 8th August 2011, ENH arranged a discussion of a bestseller, Lijia Zhang's book *Socialism is Great! From Rocket Factory Girl to International Media.* Lijia Zhang is a factory-worker-turned writer, journalist, social commentator and TV talk show host based in Beijing. Her articles have appeared in many international publications. The discussion foregrounded Zhang's personal experiences of change in China over the past three decades, and her thoughts on China's current position in the world.



Study Tours

A Trip to Boimela

ENH students of "Introduction to English Prose" (ENG 115) and "Composition-I" (ENG 102) visited the "Ekushey Boimela" on 12th February, 2011 accompanied by their course teachers. This trip was a part of ENH's annual visit, where students are inspired to get involved with books and to develop the habit of reading.

BRAC School Visit

ENH students of "Teaching Practicum" (ENG 439) visited one of the BRAC schools in Manikgonj on 26th February 2011 under the supervision of the course teacher, Ms. Asifa Sultana. The visit was conducted with a view to expose the students to the dominant teaching practices in ESL classrooms.



Trips to "Mahasthangar" and "Paharpur" (March, June 2011)

On 11th March 2011, students of the course, "World Civilization and Culture" (HUM 101) visited Mahasthangar and Paharpur (Shompur Bihar) in Bogra. The course teachers, Professor Samina Sultana and Ayrin Ahmed, accompanied the students on this trip. This trip exposed the students to the remnants of the ancient civilization of Bengal of the Gupta Era. A second batch of HUM 101 students went to visit the remnants of the Buddha Bihar of Paharpur and Mahasthangar in Bogra from the 9th to the 11th June 2011 with their teachers.

Departures of Faculty Members (July, August, October 2011)

- Abu Sayeed Mohammad Noman, Lecturer, ENH left for his second M.A. at Temple University, Philadelphia, USA under the Fulbright Scholarship 2011-2012 on 30th July 2011. His area of concentration in this Masters program will be African American Literature.

- On 10th August 2011, Nausheen Naz Eusuf, Lecturer, ENH, left BRACU on study leave to attend a fully funded PhD program in English Literature at Boston University (USA). She has previously earned her M.A. degrees from Johns Hopkins and the University of Georgia, and has been teaching at BRACU since 2004.

- Fatima Tuz Zahra, Lecturer, ENH, was awarded the first-ever PennGSE-UNESCO International Fellowship to pursue her MSEd. in International Educational Development at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. She left to attend the program on 14th August 2011.

- On 14th August 2011, Mohammad Mahmudul Haque, Lecturer, ENH, left the department on study leave for a two year M.A. in Teaching English to the Speakers of other Languages (TESOL) at the American University in Washington on Fulbright Scholarship for 2011-2012.





- Asifa Sultana, Lecturer of ENH left on a scholarship for a three year Ph.D program at the Department of Communication Disorders of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, on 1st October.

New Appointments in the Department (September 2011)

On 4th September 2011, two new faculty members became parts of the ENH family.

- Mahruba Tasneem Mowtushi joined ENH as a Lecturer, who completed both her B.A. and M.A. in English from Queen Mary, University of London. Her B.A. dissertation, titled, "Of Food and Power: A Critical Analysis of the Discourses of Identity and Consumption in the works of Chinua Achebe and Ayi Kwei Armah" was the winner of the Graham Rees Prize for the best English dissertation of the year in 2010.

- Mushira Habib, a BRACU graduate joined the department as a Lecturer in September as well. She completed both her B.A. and M.A. in English Literature from the ENH Department and also worked there as a Teaching Assistant from January 2010 to August 2011.

Publications by ENH Faculty Members

- A paper entitled "Interpreting Bangladeshi and Australian Print Advertisements" presented by Sabreena Ahmed, Lecturer of ENH at the 10th International Literature, Language and Stylistics Symposium 03-05 November, 2010 organized by Gazi University, Ankara, Turkey was published in the conference proceedings.

- A collection of Nausheen Eusuf's poems titled *What Remains* was published by Longleaf Press, Methodist University, USA.

- ENH Lecturer, Sabreena Ahmed's English translation of Saleha Chowdhury's short story "A Punk and Gulshan Ara" was anthologized in the compilation of stories titled *As the Story Goes,* edited by Mark Richardson and published by New Fiction publishers, UK.

Thesis and Internship Report Presentations (April, August 2011)

B.A. and M.A. students of ENH presented their final theses and internship reports in the Spring and Summer semesters of 2011. The vast range of topics for the student dissertations is listed below.

- "Civilization vs. Human Nature: The Treatment of Violence and Aggressive Behavior in Three Contemporary Novels" (Tonima Hossain)
- "The Female Persona in the Victorian Literary Imagination" (Shabrina Huq),
- "Revisiting the Techniques Used in Different Language Teaching Methods" (Mavinur Laila),
- "Teaching Experience at South Point School: Reviewing the established Language Teaching Method" (Rashida Ferdousi),
- "From Theory to the Real World: Working at The Daily Star" (Subarna Sharika),
- "A Practical Experience of Journalism with The Daily Star" (Debesree Saha),
- "Change of Language of advertisements in Bangladesh: Result of the Alternation of Youth's Language and Social Impact" (Jinat Arefin),
- "The Post-modern Turn in Visual Culture" (Reefat Munmun),
- "Identity Dilemma of Women: A Postcolonial Feminist Perspective" (Mahia Nowreen),
- "The 20th Century Zeitgeist in Doris Lessing's Fiction: A Reading of the Children of Violence Series" (Robina Rashid Bhuiyan),
- "Culture Sensitivity and Language Learning: A Tertiary Level Scenario" (Lumma Maisha Hasan),
- "The Affect of Multiple Intelligences on Second Language Teaching and Learning" (Umme Atia Siddiqua),
- "An Evaluation of the Tasks of IX-X Textbook "English for Today": An Empircal Study" (Zahin Antara Zishnu),
- "Grammar Teaching vs. the Use of English in Different Contexts" (Arifah),
- "Classroom Interaction: Influencing Factors for Enhancing STT (Student Talk Time)" (Tasnia Talukder),
- "Destruction and Reconstruction in early Twentieth-Century America in the Short Fiction of Ernest Hemingway and William Faulkner" (Mushira Habib),
- "In Between Cultures and Identities: Reflections on Multiculturism in Diaspora Literature" (Rashida Ahmed Islam),
- "Teaching Organization of Essays and paragraphs: A Tertiary Level Scenario" (Shabnam Jahan),
- "Use of Language Learning Strategies: An Investigation of the Use Pattern of Language Learning Strategy of Bangladeshi Learners and its Correlation with the Proficiency Level" (Pankaj Paul).

Department of Economics and Social Sciences

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Department of Economics and Social Sciences



The Department of Economics and Social Sciences has successfully been expanding since its creation in 2003. Over these 8 years the Department has grown to a total of around 180 students and 15 full-time well-qualified faculty members. The Department offers a 120 credit undergraduate degree in Economics (BS in Economics), minors in Economics and Sociology and a postgraduate program in Applied Economics (MS in Applied Economics). Upon graduation our students have successfully joined reputed organizations or gone for higher studies in well renowned universities overseas. Since its launch, the ESS Department has earned a high reputation for its teaching quality and research.

Conference Participation:

- Haydory Akbar Ahmed, Lecturer of Economics at BRAC University presented his paper titled, "Private Credit and Export Performance in Bangladesh: an ARDL Approach' in the National Conference on Contemporary Issues in Economics 2011 organized by the Department of Economics at Shah Jalal University of Science & Technology on the 24th February, 2011.

- Dr. Seuty Sabur, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Social Sciences, presented a paper titled "Tying Knots and Transcending Boundaries: Bangladeshi 'Middle Class', Transmigrant Networks, and Mobility" at a conference in organized by Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Florida Atlantic University on 2nd April 2011.

- Ms. Lutfun Nahar Lata, Lecturer, Department of Economics and Social Sciences, presented a paper on "Poverty and Sanitation Practices among the Urban Poor" at the Fourth Annual Poverty and Protection Conference in Thailand on April 02, 2011.



- In April 23, 2011 Dr. Seuty Sabur, Assistant Professor of ESS attended a conference in East London Brady Arts Centre where she presented a paper titled "Home Away From Home: British Bangladeshi Professionals and Their Social Networks: Story of Bangladesh and Bangladeshi People, at Home and in the Diaspora".

- Kamrul Hasan, Lecturer of ESS, presented a paper titled "Quality of Primary Health Care Services in Rural Bangladesh: Patients' Perspectives" at the International Conference on Sustainable Development 2011. The Conference was held on 5-7 December, 2011 in Putrajaya, Malaysia and was organized jointly by Ontario International Development Agency (OIDA), Laurentian University in Canada and University Tun Abdul Razak in Malaysia.



- Dr. Seuty Sabur, Assistant Professor of ESS presented a paper titled "Tying Knots and Transcending Boundaries: Bangladeshi 'Middle Class', Transmigrant Networks, and Mobility" in



a conference on "South Asia in Transition". The conference was organized by the Department of Sociology and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), University of Oxford, on 25-26 November 2011.

- Dr. Samia Huq, Assistant Professor, ESS attended the Capstone Conference of the Luce Foundation Sponsored research on faith-inspired development held in Georgetown University, Washington DC on November 2011.

- Dr. Samia Huq presented a paper on, "Women Performing the Nation: Culture, Identity and National Formation" at the IACS conference, Dhaka on December 2011.

- Dr. Seuty Sabur was the co-convener of the "Cultural Transformation: Development Initiatives and Social Movements", Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society, BRAC University, Dhaka on December 17-18, 2011.There she presented a paper on "Classed Bodies and Flexibilities: Queer Narratives in Contemporary Bangla Fictions."

Workshops:

- Dr. Samia Huq, Assistant Professor of ESS co-coordinated with the Berkley Centre for Religion, Peace and Globalization at Georgetown University to organize a consultation on faith-inspired development in South and Central Asia, Dhaka, January,2011.

- Haydory Akbar Ahmed, Lecturer of ESS attended a Curriculum Review Workshop organized by the Institute of Governance Studies, BRAC University at Savar BCDM, on 14-15 January 2011. The workshop was designed to review the existing curriculum and delivery mechanism of the MA in Governance and Development program offered to the bureaucrats of Bangladesh. Dr. Gowhar Rizvi, Advisor to the Prime Minister was present in this workshop.

- Mahbuba Naznin Sani, Lecturer, ESS, attended the "2011 Endeavour Awards Professional Development Workshop" on 11th of May at Rugby Quay, Brisbane. This event was

only for award holders and alumni. The workshop covered topics such as leadership, communication and managing change. A major benefit of this workshop was the networking with award holders and alumni, across the Endeavour Awards community.



- Tanveer Reza Rouf, lecturer at ESS, attended the highly selective International Summer School in Applied Environmental and Regulatory Economics (ISSAERE Edition - XIV) from the 1st to the 20th of September 2011 in Turin, Italy. Twenty candidates were selected from 350 applications from 67 countries to attend this funded summer school which offered a two weeks "full immersion" course in regulation of local public services (e.g. waste, water, public transport, district heating, sport facilities). The school was organised by Fondazione per l'Ambiente T. Fenoglio Onlus in partnership with University of East Piedmont - Faculty of Political Science. The school was supported by Campagnia di San Paolo, one of Europe's most important private foundations.

- Dr. Wahid Abdallah, Assistant Professor, ESS, presented a paper titled, "Corruption and Inspection in Electricity Sector: Evidence from Bangladesh" at a workshop organized jointly by International Growth Center (IGC) and Economic Research Group (ERG) on December 2011.

- Dr. Samia Hoq, Assistant Professor, ESS attended a workshop on "The Politics of Religious Freedom", sponcered by the Luce Foundation and co-hosted by the University of California, Northwestern University and University of Maryland held in Chiang Mai, Thailand inDecember 2011.

Seminars:

- The Department of Economics and Social Sciences and BRAC Development Institute jointly organized a seminar on the national budget on June 16 (Thursday) 2011 at BRAC University. The title of that seminar was "Budget: 2011 - 2012, Reflections on the Macroeconomic Challenges." Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) was the keynote speaker. Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Registrar Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Chowdhury, Prof. Syed M Hashemi, Prof. S. R. Osmani, Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury andother faculty members and students of BRAC University were also present there.



Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) presented a paper titled "WTO Doha Round Negotiations and Bangladesh Trade Policy: Issues of Interest, Concerns and Strategies" on July 21, 2011 at BRAC University.

- On July 28, 2011 ESS organized a seminar on "Monetary Policy and Exchange Rate issues in Bangladesh". Professor Salehuddin Ahmed, Ex-Governor of the Bangladesh Bank presented in this seminar. The seminar was held at BRAC University.

Publications:

- Dr Farzana Munshi, "Off Shoring and Occupational Wages: Some Empirical Evidence" was published in The Journal of International Trade and Economic Development by Routledge in April 2011.

- Dr. Samia Huq, "Discussing the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) Rebellion: Non-Islamist Women and Religious Revival in Urban Bangladesh" in Contemporary Islam. DOI10.1007/s11562-011-0165-8, June 2011, Springer, Netherlands.

- Dr. Samia Huq, "Piety, Music and Gender Transformation: Reconfiguring Women as Culture Bearing Markers of Modernity and Nationalism in Urban Bangladesh" In Inter Asia Cultural Studies, Vol 12, Number 2, June 2011. Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group.

- Dr. Wasiqur Rahman Khan and Haydory Akbar Ahmed, "Dynamics of Foreign Earnings, Assistance and Debt Servicing in Bangladesh" which is accepted for publication in the International Journal of Development Issues.

- Haydory Akbar Ahmed, Gazi Salahuddin and Dr. Ilhan Ozturk, "Is Real GDP per Capita Stationary for Bangladesh", accepted for publication in the Journal of Actual Problems in Economics, February 2012 issue.

- Dr. Samia Huq "Religious Learning Circles and Dawa: The Moralities of Educated Bangladeshi Women Preaching Islam" is to be published by Springer in Asia in an volume of Proselytizing and The Limits of Pluralism by Michael Feener and Juliana Finucane, National University Singapore.

- Dr. Samia Huq, "Islam in Urban Bangladesh: Changing World Views and Reconfigured Sexuality" is accepted for publication by Zed Books in Volume edited by Charmaine Pereira, as lead researcher of the Changing Narratives of Sexuality Subgroup, Pathways to Women's Empowerment RPC.

Appointments/Arrivals/Departures:

- Dr. Samia Huq, Assistant Professor of Sociology joined the ESS department in January 2011. She completed her Ph.D in Anthropology from Brandies University, USA.

- Ms. Tahreen Tahrima Boishakhi, Lecturer of ESS left the Department of Economics and Social Sciences in May, 2011 and joined BIDS as a young researcher.

- Tanveer Reza Rouf joined the ESS Department as a Lecturer in April 2011. He concurrently completed two Masters degrees in Economics and Sociology from Utrecht University in the Netherlands in 2010. Before that he completed his BSS in Economics from BRAC University.

- Serajes Salekeen joined the ESS department as a Lecturer in April 2011. He completed his M.Sc. in Economics from Lund University, Sweden in 2011 and undergraduate degree from Jonkoping International Business School, Jonkoping, Sweden in 2009.

- Kamrul Hasan joined the Department of Economics and Social Sciences after the end of his study leave. He completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Development Studies (with Distinction) and all requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Development Studies at the University of Auckland in New Zealand. He was a recipient of the Asian Development Bank-Japan (ADB-Japan) Scholarship. His Masters thesis "Power and Quality of Primary Health Care: Narratives from Rural Bangladesh" examined the role of professional power on the quality of primary health services in rural Bangladesh. He presented a paper titled "Knowledge, power and health care: The effects of professional power on the quality of primary health care in Bangladesh" at the Aotearoa New Zealand Development Network Conference 2010 at Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

- Meheri Tamanna, Lecturer of Economics and Social Sciences Department of BRACU, has gone o study leave from September, 2011. She is involved in a Masters Program in Development Studies with a specialization in Governance and Democracy at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague, Netherlands.

- Lutfun Nahar Lata, Lecturer of Economics and Social Sciences Department of BRACU, has gone on study leave from September, 2011. She will be doing an MSc in Sociological

Research (two years program) at the University of Manchester, the UK.

- Dr. Wahid Abdallah, joined ESS as an Assistant Professor in December 2011. He did his Ph.D in Economics from the University of Washington, USA.

ESS Student Achievements

- Farmina Hossain represented BRAC University as an adjudicator to the United Asian Debating Championship 2011 in Macao SAR, China on May 2011.

- Ratib M Ali and Abedin Kader represented BRAC University and Bangladesh as a public speaker at the English-Speaking Union's International Public Speaking Competition 2011 at Dartmouth House, London, England, as part of a week-long exchange program on May 2011.



- Shehzad M Arifeen, Tasbita Reham, Estiaque Bari Manan, Fayeza Ashraf, Ratib M Ali and Shah Sujat Hossain represented BRAC University at the Annual Independent Economic Assembly 2011, hosted by the Independent University, Bangladesh on November 24, 2011. Shehzad was awarded as the Best Speaker during the Economic Problem-Solving Session.

- Farmina Hossain, Shirleen Manzur and Ratib M Ali represented BRAC University at the Asian British Parliamentary Debate Championship 2011 hosted by North South University on December 2011.

- Ratib M Ali represented BRAC University at the World Universities Debating Championship 2012 held in Manila, the Philippines during December 2011/January 2012 and also attended at the Cross Talk 2012, a forum for economic discussions, hosted by North South University on April 2012.



Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

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Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

The essence of science is change and development. Science plays a vital role in the development and progress of modern technology, whether it is in physical sciences, biological sciences, medicine, social sciences, engineering, agriculture, business, commerce or management. The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) at BRAC University has been providing quality education in basic and applied sciences to the students of different disciplines, including its own.



Academic Programs and Achievements:

The Department of MNS offers courses in physical and life sciences, mathematics, statistics, economic geography and environmental sciences. It started the undergraduate programme for the degree of Bachelor of Science (BS) in Physics in Fall 2005 semester. It needs to be mentioned here that BRACU is the first and perhaps the only private university in Bangladesh to introduce undergraduate programmes in physical sciences. In the last convocation held in 2011, three students got their Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. One of them also did a second major in economics. Two more students got their Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) with a second major in Physics. In the seventh convocation to be held on 19 February 2012, one student would get his undergraduate degree majoring in Physics with a second major in ECE. The MNS Department is also running undergraduate programme in Applied Physics, Electronics and Mathematics as well.

The department started two new undergraduate programmes from Summer Semester 2010 in biological sciences. The programmes are Bachelor of Science in biotechnology and Bachelor of Science in microbiology. For these two programmes, necessary lab facilities have been created. The labs are well equipped with necessary equipment and accessories to carry out not only the course lab work but also to carry out high quality research. Biotechnology is a multidisciplinary science involving various disciplines like biochemistry, microbiology, molecular biology, genetics, chemical and biochemical engineering. The theory and lab courses for this programme have been designed accordingly. Genetic engineering is the latest branch of molecular biology which has been emphasized in the programme while making the syllabus. Microbiology programme includes topics such as basic microbiological techniques, biochemistry, microbial biotechnology, food microbiology, fermentation technology, industrial microbiology and so on. Students will get fundamental knowledge, as well as acquire theoretical and practical skills in biotechnology, molecular biology and microbiology through these programmes. They will also be provided with the fundamental knowledge in related physical and biological sciences. The

undergraduate programmes in biotechnology and microbiology have been launched to build basic strength in their respective fields which will help prepare the students in pursuing higher studies in these emerging fields. The department also plans to start undergraduate programmes in biochemistry and molecular biology in the near future.

MS Biotechnology programme was started in Spring 2007 Semester. In the sixth convocation held on 7 February 2011, four students got their MS degree in biotechnology.

A proposal for M Phil in physics is under consideration of the UGC. A proposal for MS in Nuclear Science and Engineering is awaiting approval of the UGC. MS in physics programme is also being finalized. In addition to these, the department plans to start post graduate programmes in microbiology, biochemistry and molecular biology. These postgraduate programmes will create an environment for research which is a sine qua non for creation of new knowledge and enhancing the image of the university and benefiting the country as a whole.



Microbiology lab



Practical classes of microbiology and biotech



MS Biotechnology research work in progress



Tissue culture lab

Research Projects:

Plasma-Fusion and Space Science Research:

A research project on Plasma-Fusion and Space Science has been initiated at the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences on March 31, 2011. The project is financed by the Ministry of Education, GOB under Grants for Advanced Research in Science of worth Tk. 10,000,00 (Taka Ten Lac only). Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, is the Principal Investigator of the project. The research program was inaugurated with a simple function at the MNS Department by cutting cakes followed by discussion. All faculty and staff of the Department were present at the function.



Prof. Mofiz with the members of the project



Launching of the project work

Study of the Microbiological Status of Food and Drinks Available in Mobile Restaurants and Footpath of Dhaka City

The research project titled, "Study of the microbiological status of food and drinks available in mobile restaurants and footpath of Dhaka city" financed by the Ministry of Science and Tehcnology, GOB with Dr. M. Mahboob Hossain as the Principal Investigator and Professor Naiyyum Choudhury as the Associate Investigator is in progress.

In this study, fourteen food samples (such as chotpoti, lachchi, chitoi pitha, cane juice, aloe vera juice etc.) were collected from mobile shops and street restaurants. The samples were analyzed to detect their microbiological status. All the samples were grown in nutrient agar, MacConkey agar and Baired Parker agar to detect total microbial count, presence of Gram negative bacteria and the presence of Staphylococcus spp. respectively. Fifty seven isolates were selected on the basis of colony characteristics and out of them forty eight isolates could be identified. Organisms predominant in this study were Staphylococcus spp.(31.25%), Micrococcus spp.(31.25%) and Escherichia coli (25%). Alcalegenes sp (8.33%). Klebsiella sp. (4.2%) and Bacillus sp. (2%) were also observed in a few samples. Staphylococcus aureus, Micrococcus sp., Klebsiella sp. and E. coli were reported to cause food borne illness. However, in our study pathogenecity test of twenty six samples revealed that none of them were pathogens. Presence of these organisms indicates that street foods of Dhaka city do not fulfill the hygiene standard.

BAS-USDA PALS Agricultural Project

Dr. S. M. Monowar Hossain, Managing Director of Hortex Foundation visited the MNS Department on the 13th July 2011 as a part of the mid-year monitoring of the BAS-USDA PALS Endowment fund supported agricultural project entitled "Production of Tomato Tolerant to Environmental Stresses like Salinity". The project is a collaborative venture between BRACU and University of Dhaka which commenced on the 13th October 2011. Dr. Hossain looked through the progress in research and visited facilities developed under the project. Finally, he had a formal meeting with Professor Naiyyum Choudhury. Professor Choudhury briefed Dr. Hossain about the various research activities going on at the MNS Department in the field of biotechnology and microbiology.

Conferences/ Workshops etc:

Workshop on National Biotechnology Policy-2010, Dhaka, 19 January, 2011

- Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Dr. Aparna Islam and Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain participated in the Stakeholders' Workshop on National Biotechnology Policy-2010 organized by the Ministry of Science and ICT and the National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB) and held at the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka on 19 January 2011. The inauguration session and technical session were chaired by Professor Naiyyum Choudhury and Mr. Md Abdur Rob Haolador, Secretary, MOSICT was the Chief Guest at the

inaugural ceremony. Dr. Saidul Islam, Director General of the National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB) presented the keynote paper outlining the revised National Biotechnology Policy-2010 and mentioned that the revised draft had most of the features of the original draft of National Biotechnology Policy-2005 formulated by a Committee with Professor Naiyyum Choudhury as its Convener. Over 35 scientists and researchers from different public and private academic and research organizations including scientists from the NARS institutes took part in discussion in the technical session and presented their views and suggestion for modification on the Policy Draft-2010. The session was rounded up by Professor Naiyyum Choudhury outlining a brief summary of the comments raised by the participants and he requested the DG, NIB to incorporate the comments as far as possible in the revised document.

National Conference on Physics for Development, Dhaka, 10-11 February, 2011

Professor A. A. Z. Ahmad chaired the Plenary Session of the above-mentioned Conference organised by Bangladesh Physical Society. The Conference was held at the Central Auditorium of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) from 10 to 11 February, 2011.

Dr. Farid Uddin Ahmed, Chairman, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC), gave his talk titled - "Nuclear Power Program in Bangladesh: Issues and Challenges." He stressed on the need for adopting nuclear power as one of the options from the different energy-mix choices. He elaborated on the plans of BAEC for future nuclear energy programme in Bangladesh.

Professor F. Bary Malik of Southern Illinois University of Carbondale, Illinois, USA, presented the second plenary talk on "Incompressibility of Neutron Stars and Brown Dwarfs and Nuclear Reactions." This work was done in collaboration with Professor A. K. Basak and Dr. A. S. B. Tariq of Rajshahi University, and Dr. S. Hossain of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology in Sylhet. Professor F. Bary Malik also dwelt upon some of the problems of current interest for research which could be taken up by physicists working in different universities and R/D organisations of Bangladesh.

Inaugural Ceremony of the Training Course in Oceanography, Dhaka, April 17, 2011

The inaugural ceremony of "The 7th Training Course in Oceanography: Principles and Applications" was held at the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka (AECD) Auditorium on April 17, 2011. The Honourable State Minister for Science and Information & Communication Technology, GOB Architect Yeafash Osman graced the function as its Chief Guest. Professor A. A. Z. Ahmad presided over the function attended by Rear Admiral (Retd) M. H. Khan, Founder Chairman of NOAMI, participants in the course, resource persons and NOAMI members.

South Asia Conference on Current Approaches to Environmental Risk Assessment of Genetically Engineered Crops, New Delhi, India, May 16-18, 2011

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the South Asia Conference on Current Approaches to Environmental Risk Assessment of Genetically Engineered Crops, jointly organized by the South Asia Biosafety Programme (SABP) and the Biotechnology Corporation of India Limited (BCIL) and held in New Delhi, India from May 16-18, 2011. The Conference brought together scientists and professionals from India and abroad to share their experiences and knowledge of the science and practice of environmental risk assessment (ERA) as well as closely related scientific issues. The Conference provided a good platform for the scientists in the region to be in touch with world class experts on biosafety, biodiversity, risk assessment and risk communication and the participants were exposed to more recent approaches to the ERA of GM technology like Problem Formulation (PF) approach for risk assessment of the GM crops. It is hoped that the experience gained

through the exchange of ideas and interactions among scientists of the developed and the developing countries will be effectively utilized by the participants in respective countries in their risk assessment strategies for GM crops.

International Workshop on Science Education, Dhaka, June 27-28, 2011

Ms Moushumi Zahur took part in the International Training Workshop on Science Education for Sustainable Development held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from June 27-28, 2011.

International Training Workshop, Beijing, China, September 26-29, 2011

Ms Moushumi Zahur, participated in the International Training Workshop on "Regional Climate Change and Its Impact Assessment", held from September 26-29, 2011, at Beijing, China organized by CAS-TWAS-WMO Forum on Climate Science. She presented a paper entitled "Monitoring the Impacts of Climate Change: Exploring Framework in the Context of Bangladesh". She also participated in the open discussion session and shared her ideas and views with other participants.

First Bangladesh Urban Forum Conference, Dhaka, 5-7 December, 2011

Ms. Moushumi Zahur, attended and worked as Rapporteur at the first International Conference of Urban Forum, held on 5-7 December, 2011, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The three-day long Conference held in Bangabandhu International Conference Centre was inaugurated by the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Twenty different sessions were organized on different themes regarding urban problems and issues in Bangladesh. The Conference adopted resolution for the development of urban areas taking due cognizance of sustainability.

Fifth International Botanical Conference 2011, Dhaka, 9-11 December 2011

Dr. Aparna Islam and Ms. Jebunessa Chowdhury attended the three-day long 5th International Botanical Conference 2011. The event was organized by the Bangladesh Botanical Society in collaboration with University of Dhaka (DU) and was held on 9-11 December, 2011, at the Department of Botany, DU. The conference brought together plant scientists from Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Nepal and Pakistan in addition to Bangladeshi botanists on this eve of 40 year celebration of the Bangladesh Botanical Society. A total of about 300 scientists participated in the conference. Several papers were presented in eight scientific sessions. Dr. Aparna Islam presented a short article in the conference publication entitled "Climate change, emerging infectious diseases and food security". In the article she emphasizes on the biotic problems that the world is facing due to climate change.

Seminars, Symposiums and Lectures:

National Seminar on Applications of TRIGA MARK-II RESEARCH Reactor, AERE, Savar, Dhaka, February 8, 2011

Mr. Khandker Md. Mahmudul Hassan, Mr. Muhammad Lutfor Rahman and Mr. Mohammad Murtaza Mahmud, participated in the National Seminar on "Applications of TRIGA Reactor for Research and Services in the Area of Materials Sciences, Industry, Environment and Health" held at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment (AERE), Savar on February 8, 2011. The event took place at the Auditorium, INST, AERE. The prime objective of the seminar was to introduce delegates and representatives from various universities, research organizations, industries to diversified scopes of utilisation of the research reactor which is the only one of its kind in the country. The Chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) Dr. Farid Uddin Ahmed presided over the function. Dr. Sk Md Yunus, presented the keynote paper while Mr. ASM Firoz, Director General, AERE and Dr. R Berliner, President , Instrumentation Associate, NL, USA also spoke on the occasion. They said that neutron scattering, neutron activation analysis and neutron radiography facilities at the research reactor were expanded and modernised to a great extent and the researchers in the

country now had access to world class laboratory facilities for research using the neutron beam from the reactor. A high performance neutron powder diffractometer has also been set up at the reactor to enhance the R&D facilities using neutron scattering. Structural studies of materials are being done using this technique to characterize materials crystallographically and magnetically. The speakers said this technique was unique for understanding the magnetic behavior in magnetic materials. Ceramic, steel, electronic and electric industries can be benefited from this facility for improving their products and fabrication processes.

MNS Seminar, Dhaka, March 24, 2011

A seminar was held on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at 10:00 am in the MNS Conference Room (UB1521). The seminar entitled, "Biopesticides: Introduction, prospects, and promises" was presented by Mr. Mahbubul Hasan Siddiqee, Lecturer of Microbiology, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, BRACU.

Biopesticides are certain types of pesticides derived from naturally occurring biological agents. Microbial pesticides consisting of microorganism, plant-incorporated-protectants (PIPs), and biochemicals are three of its major classes that can serve significantly to improve agricultural production and environmental safety. In 2001, about 5.05 billion pounds of pesticide active ingredient were used worldwide in agriculture containing approximately 888 million pounds of active ingredients and 600 different chemical compounds that are reported to pose considerable risks ranging from irritation to cancer. On the other hand, biopesticides are usually inherently less toxic than conventional pesticides and often are effective in very small quantities that decompose quickly, thereby resulting in lower and, most notably, safer exposures. Thus, biopesticides may serve to reduce conventional pesticide applications through their effective use.

HEQEP Seminar on Biotechnology, Chittagong University, Dhaka, June 14, 2011

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury presented a keynote address in a one day seminar on biotechnology at the auditorium of the Biological Faculty, Chittagong University (CU). The seminar was arranged under the HEQEP project on capacity building in biotechnology at Chittagong University.

Professor Choudhury spoke on recent developments in biotechnology research and applications and outlined national efforts in this regard. Professor SK Bhadra, Department of Botany, CU and Professor Al Forkan, Chairperson, Department of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, CU, were discussants in the seminar. A large number of faculty members and students of science and biological science faculties participated in the seminar and took active part in discussion.

Seminar on Disaster Risk Management, Dhaka, June 26, 2011

Ms Moushumi Zahur participated in the seminar titled Disaster Risk Management in East Asia and the Pacific (Distance Learning Seminar Series 2011) in partnership with Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES, Kyoto University). The seminar was held on June 26, 2011 at Dhaka.

Seminar on National Biotechnology Policy Action Plan 2011, Dhaka, 29 June, 2011

Dr. Aparna Islam attended the half-day long seminar on National Biotechnology Policy Action Plan 2011 at the Dr. Anwar Hossain Auditorium of the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) on 29 June 2011 organized by the National Institute of Biotechnology. The seminar was conducted in the light of the "final draft" of the National Science and Technology Policy document to draw up the action plan. Following the inaugural session, a technical session was held where Dr. Md. Saidul Islam, DG of NIB presented the draft action plan. Group discussions took place in different branches of biotechnology. A good number of suggestions and comments were made by the participants. The seminar was attended by more than 100 participants from different ministries, academic and research organizations in the public and private sectors, NGOs and media representatives.

Seminar on Tidal and Wave Power Geneneration for Practical Demonstration and Utilization along the Coastal Belt of Bangladesh, Dhaka, October 22, 2011

Professor A. A. Ziauddin Ahmad presided over the Inaugural Ceremony and Technical Session of the above-mentioned seminar which was organized by National Oceanographic and Maritime Institute (NOAMI) on Saturday the 22nd October, 2011 at the auditorium of the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka (AECD). The keynote paper was presented by Mr. Abdul Matin Mondal, Project Director assisted by Professor Md. Kamrul Alam Khan, Associate Investigator of the Project.

Researchers and professionals from different universities and R / D organizations participated in the seminar. After the presentation of the keynote paper lively discussion took place.

Meetings:

Meeting with Vice-chancellor of Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP), Dhaka, February 3, 2011

Professor A. A. Z. Ahmad was invited to BUP to discuss BUP's proposal for post graduate programme of MS in Nuclear Science and Engineering. Apart from other members representing BUP, the meeting was also attended by Dr. Farid Uddin Ahmed, Chairman, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) and Professor Zahid Hasan Mahmood of the Department of Applied Physics, Electronics and Communications Engineering, University of Dhaka. The meeting was presided over by Major General Shafiqul Islam, Vice-chancellor of BUP. The meeting discussed in detail the proposed curriculum for MS in Nuclear Science and Engineering. After a threadbare discussion, the syllabus for the post graduate course was finalised.

BRACU MS Biotechnology Students Visit BRAC Dairy, Gazipur, March 14, 2011

A group of students of MS Biotechnology programme, MNS Department, visited the BRAC Dairy, Gazipur on 14 March, 2011. It was a twenty-eight member group of students and faculty members from the MNS Department. The group was led by Professor Naiyyum Choudhury. The team was warmly received by the BRAC dairy officials. The visiting team then went around the different laboratories, production floors and the powder milk production plant. The visiting team thanked BRAC Dairy officials for their warm reception and for showing them around the different laboratories.



20th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Science and Technology (ECNCST), Dhaka, 23 August, 2011

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the 20th Meeting of the ECNCST held on 23 August, 2011 in the Conference Room of the Ministry of Science and ICT, GOB. Presided over by Architect Yeafesh Osman, State Minister of the MOSICT, the meeting discussed at length different programmes and activities based on the decisions of the 6th Meeting of the NCST held on 27 June 2010. The meeting was informed that the National Science and Technology Policy 2010 had been approved by the cabinet. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Member of the ECNCST and Convener of the Committee and his team were profusely thanked for their hard work for preparation of the policy document. The meeting decided to form a committee to formulate an action plan with short, medium and long term perspectives for implementation of the NCST Policy. Professor Choudhury was made advisor to the committee. The meeting was also informed that the Honourable Prime Minister had already

allocated land for construction of the National Science and Technology Building at Agargaon, Dhaka and the project work would start soon. The building will provide space to different scientific societies and associations of the country including the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences.

Meeting of the Faculty of the MNS Department and the Vice-chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, September 15, 2011

The Vice-Chancellor of BRACU, Professor Ainun Nishat and Pro Vice Chancellor, Professor Golam Samdani Fakir met the faculty members of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences(MNS) on Thursday, 15 September 2011. The Chairperson of MNS, Professor A A Ziauddin Ahmad and Coordinator of Biotechnology and Microbiology programs, Professor Naiyyum Choudhury and other faculty members and staff of the department were present at the meeting. The Vice-Chancellor discussed some important matters regarding the course curricula for different programs, research and publications of the faculty members etc. He also talked about the new campus of BRACU. He informed the meeting about the current status of shifting to the permanent campus of BRACU. He said that 4.88 acres land had been acquired for the new campus and a well reputed architect had already been assigned for designing the infrastructure including campus buildings, classrooms and other physical facilities.

The Vice Chancellor suggested some teaching techniques for the teachers to conduct a class keeping in mind different levels of students in the class. He also urged them to complete their Ph.D. degrees and to carry out research, because without research no new knowledge could be created. He also talked about the environmental issues that both the students and faculty members should be aware of and about including more extra departmental courses beside the core courses in a program. Some of the faculties raised the issue about different time duration of the final exams for courses from different programs. The Pro-VC explained the matter to the faculties in his reply. The Pro-Vice Chancellor also discussed about the TLC (Teaching Learning Centre) program and asked the recent TLC graduates to give feedback on their TLC workshop.

Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on Preparation of the 2nd National Report on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to CBD, Dhaka, 20 September, 2011

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the Stakeholder Consultation on Preparation of the 2nd National Report as per Article 33 of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to CBD, on the status of implementation of different articles of the Protocol, organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOB and held at the Chameli Conference Hall, Paribesh Bhabhan, Agargaon, on 20 September 2011. Mr. Mesbah ul Alam, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOB was the Chief Guest of the occasion. The Technical Session was chaired by Professor Naiyyum Choudhury and the draft report along with the country status on different articles of the Protocol was presented by Mr. Mohammad Solaiman Haider, Deputy Director, Department of Environment. The participants from different universities, R&D organizations etc. discussed at length the filled in questionnaires (185 in all) dealing with different articles of the Protocol and modified some of the answers in the draft document to be consistent with the existing situation. Finally the meeting approved the modified report and requested the Ministry to send the report to the CBD.

Annual Progress Review Meeting of BAS-USDA PALS Project,Dhaka, 15-17 October, 2011

The Annual Progress Review meeting of 20 research projects funded by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences under the BAS-USDA Programme in Agricultural and Life Sciences was held at the seminar room of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, Agargaon, Dhaka on 15-17 October 2011. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, chaired the meeting and Mr. Riajul Hossain, participated in the meeting. The progress report of the projects was presented by the respective Chief Investigators. A number of experts were invited for reviewing the progress and suggesting modifications in the projects

under implementation. Dr. Aparna Islam presented progress of work done under the project entitled "Production of Tomato Tolerant to Environmental Stresses like Salinity" with a total allocation of Taka Fifty Nine Lacs only. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury presented all the recommendations adopted for each of the projects and advised the principal investigators to plan their work for the second year in the light of the recommendations which would be communicated to them by the Academy of Sciences.



Meeting on Five Year Action Plan on Industrial Biotechnology, Dhaka, 31 October, 2011

A half-day long meeting on "Five Year (2011-2015) Action Plan on Industrial Biotechnology" was held on October 31, 2011 at BRACU. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Dr. Mahboob Hossain, Dr. Aparna Islam, Ms. Jebunessa Chowdhury, Ms. Farzana Ahmed, Ms Sadia Sayed and Mr Riajul Hossain of the MNS department attended the meeting. The meeting was jointly organized by BRACU and Ministry of Industries, GOB. The discussion was chaired Prof. Naiyyum Choudhury while coordinated by Mr. Tapan Kumar Nath, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Industries, GOB. Personnel from various ministries, NARS institutes, universities attended the meeting. Through active participation of the members several suggestions regarding additions and modifications were made on the Drafted Action Plan. The Concluding Session was chaired by Professor Aninun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRACU. He in his concluding remarks expressed full cooperation from BRACU in such an endeavor to see industrial biotechnology booming in Bangladesh.

Visits:

Visit to BRAC ARDC,Gazipur, 21 March 2011

A team of 14 students led by Dr. Aparna Islam visited BRAC Agricultural Research and Development Centre (BRAC ARDC), Gazipur, on 21 March 2011. To explore the possibilities of collaborative research at the Masters level the team was enriched by the presence of six more faculty members from the MNS Department, namely, Dr. M. Mahabub Hossain, Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury, Ms. Farzana Ahmed, Ms. Farhana Musarrat and Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain. The team was given a warm welcome at the BRAC ARDC by Dr. Mahaboob Hossain, ED, BRAC and Dr. Javier Zapata, Consultant, BRAC ARDC. After a brief introduction of the visitors and host the scientific session started with the presentation with the research and development projects that were being done in the fields of breeding and biotechnology. The presentations were made by Dr. Mondal and Dr. Zapata of BRAC ARDC. Following the presentations the team was led to visit the plant tissue culture labs and also the low cost environmentally friendly culture room facilities. The second facility was indeed an eye opening experience away from the traditional setup of plant tissue culture laboratory system. The team was given an overall view of how the labs were arranged and how the work was carried out step by step. At present the centre is engaged in tissue culture of several vegetables and flowering plants, namely, potato, banana, strawberry, stevia, carnation and gerbera etc. From the huge culture rooms the plantlets are taken to the equally large green houses for acclimatization. Finally these plantlets are packed for selling at the markets. After going through the plant biotechnology research facility the team was taken to the field to see the breeding programmes in several crop species including rice, red long beans, red okras, egg plants, chillies etc. The students were shown how to identify the hybrid and analyze the characters in the field. The visit enabled the students to correlate the theories learnt in the class rooms with the real life and open-up venues of research with commercially important crops so very necessary for the boost of the country's economy.

Achievements/ Awards

Election of Executive Committee of the BAPTC&B

Dr. Aparna Islam, of the MNS Department of BRACU, has been elected as Joint Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Association of Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology (BAPTC&B). Established in 1989, the Association is the Bangladesh focal point of International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), Delhi, India. Every year the Association organizes various trainings, workshops along with national/ international seminars on plant biotechnology and molecular biology.

Editorial Member of the PTC&B Journal

Dr. Aparna Islam was made a member of the Editorial Board of the Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology Journal published by the Bangladesh Association for Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology (BAPCT&B). The biannual PTC&B journal is being published since 1991. Online publication of the journal at the BanglaJOL started in 2006. At present the journal is indexed in Biological Abstracts, BIOSIS Preview, Elsevier Bibliographic Database, DOAJ, SCOPUS, Google scholar, etc.

MOU between BRACU and BAEC, Dhaka, April 20, 2011

BRACU envisages to start postgraduate programmes in Nuclear Science and Engineering at the MNS Department leading to higher academic degrees.

An MOU between BRACU and BAEC was signed on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 for collaboration between BRACU and BAEC for facilitating this. Professor Dr. Ainun Nishat, Vice-chancellor of BRACU and Mr. Muzammel Haque, Chairman (current charge), BAEC signed the MOU on behalf of their respective organizations.

Under this MOU, BAEC will allow the use of its laboratory facilities by postgraduate students of BRACU & faculty of BRACU for practical classes and research work in the field of nuclear science and engineering. It will also accept postgraduate students of BRACU in the said field for research work to be carried out in BAEC under the joint supervision of BAEC scientists and engineers and BRACU faculty. BAEC scientists and engineers may also serve as part time faculty of BRACU and can take up joint research work. They will also be able to use the relevant BRAC facilities including the university library.

The signing ceremony was attended by Professor Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro Vice-chancellor, BRACU and Professor A. A. Z. Ahmad, Professor Naiyyum Choudhury and Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed of the MNS Department and Mr. Md. Ali Zulquarnain, Mr. Mohammad Abul Khayer and Dr. Shafiqul Islam from BAEC.

MNS Faculty Received Gold Medal Award, Dhaka, 23 July, 2011

Mr. Touhid Hossain, Lecturer of the MNS Department has been awarded A. F. Mujibur Rahman Foundation Gold Medal on 23rd July, 2011 from the Department of Mathematics, University of Dhaka. Professor Dr. A A M S Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University awarded this prestigious award to Mr. Touhid Hossain. He has been honoured for his outstanding academic performance in his post graduate study. He completed his M.S. from the same department. He obtained the first position in first class in Pure Mathematics (Thesis Group).

The Dean's Award Ceremony, University of Dhaka, 22 October, 2011

Some students of the Biological Science Faculty of the University of Dhaka received Dean's Award for their outstanding academic results in the Bachelor of Science (B.Sc. Honours) examinations held in 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively. One of them, Ms. Sadia Sayed, is now a Lecturer in the MNS Department of BRACU. She joined BRACU in September, 2011 and is currently teaching in the biotechnology program. Earlier, she successfully completed her Master of Science (MS) in

Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology from the University of Dhaka. The award was given at a



program organized at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) of DU on Saturday, October 22, 2011. Dean of the Biological Science Faculty, Professor Shahid Akhter Hossain presided over the program and Professor Harun-Ur-Rashid, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Dhaka distributed the crests and certificates among the winners. Among others, the Treasurer of DU Professor Mijanur Rahman and Dean's Award Committee Convener Professor Azizul Haque were also present on the occasion.

MS Degree in Biotechnology Conferred

Ms. Salma Mir, Ms. Sadequa Sultana, Mr. Farzana Alam, Mr. Debashish Paul and Mr. Md. Jahedul Islam received their MS degrees in Biotechnology during the 6th Convocation of BRAC University held on 7 February 2011. Among them Ms. Sadequa Sultana is pursuing her PhD degree with scholarship at the Universite Joseph Fourier, Grenoble, France in nanobiology and nanobiotechnology. Ms. Farzana Alam has joined the vaccine plant of Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and Mr. Debashish Paul joined BIRDEM Research Wing. Ms. Salma Mir has started her teaching profession at the Scholastica School, Dhaka. Mr. Jahedul Islam has joined University of Science and Technology, Chittagong.

BS Degree in Physics Conferred

Mr. Mohammad Murtaza Mahmud and Mr. Nakib Haider Protik received their BS degree in Physics during the 6th Convocation of BRAC University held on 7 February, 2011. Both were placed in the Highest Distinction Category. Mr. Nakib Haider Protik also received the Vice-chancellor's Medal. Both are currently working as Teaching Assistants of Physics in the MNS Department.

Among the double major recipients Ms. Farzaha Zahid who received her BS degree with Double Major in Physics and Economics. Mr. Khondker Mohammed Sakib and Mr. Risalat Amir Khan received their BS degrees with Double Major in ECE and Physics.

MS Biotechnology Student Received PhD Fellowship at McMaster University, Canada

Ms. Nadia Iftekharuddin has been accepted for undertaking PhD programme at the McMaster University, Canada. She will start her PhD programme in April, 2011. Nadia has completed all the courses of MS biotechnology and about to complete her MS dissertation in mid April before her departure for Canada. She is working for her Master's thesis at the ICDDR,B under the joint supervision of Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, and Ms. Tasnim Azim of ICDDR,B. Nadia Iftekharuddin participated in the 2nd HOPE Nobel Laureates Meeting in June 2009 at Hakone, Japan, and presented a poster on Rotavirus Strain Diversity and Vaccine Development published in the Proceedings of 2nd HOPE Meeting held in Hakone, Japan, August 2009.

EMMA Fellowship 2011

Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury got an EMMA staff fellowship, 2011 for one month. She worked with Professor Dr. Michael Wink, Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, Department Biology at the Ruprecht Karls-University in Heidelberg.

She also worked with Professor José M Jiménez-Gómez, Project Leader, Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research, Cologne, Germany.

During her stay at Max Planck Institute, she worked on the optimization of the conditions for shoots regeneration in tomato. She worked with 18 genotype of tomato including some wild varieties provided by the group leader.



Professor Gomez was interested to see the genotype independent regeneration protocol for locally grown Bangladeshi tomato varieties that Ms. Chowdhury developed during her MS thesis work. In addition, she was interested to learn RT- PCR method and the various methods for the analysis of the data. On the 7th October, 2011 she came back to Heidelberg University to share her experience with Professor M. Wink and say goodbye to him. Professor Wink presented one of his books "An Introduction to Molecular Biotechnology" to her and suggested to her to plan some projects for future.

Miscellaneous:

Students of Biotechnology Program Participate in the Students' Outreach Program at the University of Dhaka, Dhaka, 29 January 2011

A two-day-long celebration, on the completion of a decade was organized by the Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, DU. Eeminent scientists and academics of Bangladesh, present and former students of the department participated. Four students from the biotechnology undergraduate program at BRACU, Iftekhar Mahmud Chowdhury, Sreoshee Rafiq, Iffah Chowdhury and Maisha Mosharrat Chowdhury along with four faculty members, Dr. Aparna Islam, Ms. Jebunessa Chowdhuruy, Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain and Ms. Farzana Ahmed attended the function.

On the second day a student outreach program was organized. The afore-mentioned students from the biotechnology program participated in that session. Students from twelve different colleges were invited in the event to gain knowledge about biotechnology and genetic engineering through the demonstrations of university students. MNS Department, presented two posters on two different topics of biotechnology. Sreoshee Rafiq and Iffah Chowdhury presented a poster titled "Plant Biotechnology: to Make the World Green and to Ensure Food Security". Iftekhar Mahmud Chowdhury and Maisha Mosharrat Chowdhury presented "Industrual Biotechnology: Prospects and Challenges". Both the posters were appreciated by the organizers, eminent scientists and academics; and also sparked interests among the college students.

Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain, a faculty of the MNS Department showed a powerpoint presentation on biology titled "Biology: An Overview" to the college students and was also in charge of the "Inter college quiz competition" held as a part of the program.

Presentation of MS Thesis

MS thesis viva exams of four MS Biotechnology students, Nowrin Nowshaba, Md. Abdul Quayum, Md. Shoyeb and Abul Kalam Azad were held on 11, 15 and 22 December 2011. All four students worked in various fields of biotechnology. Work of Nowrin Nowshaba and Abul Kalam Azad were aimed to analyse immune response to diarrhoea drugs. Title of Nowshaba's thesis is "In vitro regeneration of three local potato (Solanum tuberosum L.) varieties of Bangladesh", while Mr. Azad's work was entitled "Comparison of memory B-cell immune response among different age groups after oral cholera vaccination". Both the research studies were carried out under joint supervision of Professor Dr. Firdausi Qadri, of ICDDR,B, and Professor Naiyyum Choudhury. Md. Abdul Quayum worked on "Characterization of an ethanol producing yeast isolate and optimization of ethanol fermentation" and Md. Shoyeb worked on "Screening of some Bangladeshi medicinal plants for in vitro antioxidant, antimicrobial and insecticidal activities". The work on ethanol fermentation was supervised jointly Dr. Monzur Morshed Ahmed, BCSIR and Professor Naiyyum Choudhury. The work on medicinal plant extracts was carried out under joint supervision of Dr. Ashik Mosaddik, Pharmacy Dept, BRACU and Prof. Naiyyum

Choudhury, BRACU. The thesis evaluation examination was chaired by Professor AA Ziauddin Ahmad. Professor Dr. Firdausi Qadri snd Dr. Monzur Morshed Ahmed acted as external examiners. Dr. Mahboob Hossain and Dr. Aparna Islam were among the other members of the Examination Committee. Some faculty members also attended the viva-voce exams.

Launching Ceremony of the National Strategy for Developing Chemical Metrology Infrastructure of Bangladesh

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the Launching Ceremony of the National Strategy for Developing Chemical Metrology Infrastructure of Bangladesh(2009-2021) organized by the Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (BCSIR) and held at the Press Club on 12 January 2011. The keynote paper was presented by Dr. Mala Khan, Project Director, Instrumentation & Calibration Service Laboratory, BCSIR. Professor Dr. M Mosihuzzaman, former Chairman, BCSIR and Professor Naiyyum Choudhury were the main discussants. The speakers emphasized the need for valid, acceptable and reliable measurement for sustainable industrialization, protection of consumers' rights and protection of safety of human beings as well as plants, animals and environment. It was pointed out during discussion that several Bangladeshi laboratories were conducting chemical measurements not having system of demonstration whether the test results from these laboratories were acceptable, reliable, valid, traceable and of internationally recognized quality or not. The ceremony was attended by a good number of scientists, members of the civil society and representatives of the news media.

New Appointments

- Mr. Md. Sazib Hossain and Mr. Touhid Hossain joined the Department of MNS on March 13, 2011 as Junior Lecturers in mathematics.
- A total of eight new faculty members joined MNS Department on 4 September, 2011 in different disciplines. Among them Mr. Fazle Rabbi and Ms. Fahareen-Binta-Mosharraf joined in microbiology, Mr. Zulfiqar Hasan Khan joined in physics, Ms. Amel Chowdhury in applied physics & electronics, Mr.Md. Rajib Arefin and Ms. Mehnaz Karim in mathematics, Ms. Romana Siddique and Ms. Sadia Sayed joined in biotechnology.

Departure for Higher Studies Abroad

Mr. Md. Jakir Hossain, Senior Lecturer in mathematics in the MNS Department left for Australia for higher studies. He will be pursuing his Ph.D. work with an Australian Government scholarship at the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.

World Wetlands Day, Dhaka, 2 February, 2011

Dr. Aparna Islam of Biotechnology Programme at BRACU, attended the World Wetlands Day organized jointly by Ministry of Environment and Forests, GoB and IUCN, Bangladesh Country Office on 2 February 2011 at CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka. The theme for this year was "Forests for water and wetlands". On this occasion, speakers elaborated the initiatives taken for sustainable livelihood of the Haor area people and also to conserve the Ramsar site and ecologically critical area (ECA), Tanguar Haor. A book "In focus Tanguar Haor" was launched on the occasion.

BRAC University in Interuniversity Math Olympiad, Dhaka, April 1, 2011

Eight undergraduate students of different departments of BRAC University participated in the Interuniversity Math Olympiad 2011 held at East West University on April 01, 2011. Mr. Mohammad Maruf Ahmed, Senior Lecturer at the MNS Department led the team as an instructor.

The Daily Star Round Table, Dhaka, April 30,2011

A number of faculty members in the biotechnology and microbiology programs of the Department of MNS attended the Daily Star Round Table on " Biotechnology in Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects" held on 30 April, 2011 at the Daily Star office in the city. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Coordinator of the two programs, was the moderator for the whole program which was divided into two sessions. In the first session entitled" Biotechnology in Agriculture and Medicine", the keynote paper was delivered by Professor M Anwar Hossain of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Dhaka. This was followed

by two lectures on "Medical Biotechnology" and "Agricultural Biotechnology" by Mr. Abdul Muktadir, Managing Director of Incepta Pharma and Professor Zeba Islam Seraj of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, DU respectively. In the second session titled "Industrial Biotechnology, Environmental Biotechnology and Biosafety Issues" the keynote paper was presented by Professor Naiyyum Choudhury. This was followed by a lecture on "Environmental Biotechnology and Biosafety Issues" by Mr. Mohammed Solaiman Haider, Deputy Director, Department of Environment, GOB. A number of faculty members and researchers from different public and private universities and various research organizations participated. Dr. Aparna Islam, Dr. Mahboob Hossain, Ms. Jebunnesa Choudhury and Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain were present from BRACU. The program ended with the adoption of a set of recommendations and suggestions.

Astronomy Olympiad Exposure Camp, Mumbai, India, 14-17 November 2011

Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed participated in the Astronomy Olympiad Exposure Camp at HBCSE (TIFR), Mumbai, India from 14 to 17 November 2011. The primary objective of this camp is to spread awareness about the Olympiad activity and in particular Astronomy Olympiad activity which is already operational in the country. The camp also aimed at productive interaction of the teacher community with Olympiad activity at its focus. The camp consisted of various exposure sessions on theory, data analysis problem as well as night sky observation sessions. The topics of the camp included celestial mechanics, observational astronomy, positional astronomy and observable properties of stars.

Third Inter-University Mathematics Olympiad, Dhaka, December 9, 2011

The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) of BRAC University organized "Inter University Mathematics Olympiad-2011" on Friday, December 9, 2011 in collaboration with Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS). The aim of this Mathematical Olympiad was to create the opportunity for our young talented undergraduate students in the country to stand out and illustrate their mathematical and analytical skills. In addition, the event was aimed to create a national awareness for the development of mathematics education and honing of mathematical skills at the tertiary level. A total of 146 talented students from 22 different Institutions from all over the country took part in this national competition. Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir , Pro Vice Chancellor, BRACU was present as the Chief Guest and Professor Md. Abdus Sattar, President, Bangladesh Mathematical Society, as the Special Guest in the Inauguration Ceremony . Professor A.A. Ziauddin Ahmad, Chairman, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences chaired the ceremony.

In the Closing and Prize Awarding Ceremony held at Xinxian Restaurant in Dhanmondi, Dhaka, former Vice-Chancellor of BRACU, Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury was present as the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest informed that due to the lack of facilities our students were not properly prepared for the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) which was an annual event for pre-collegiate students. The first IMO was held in Romania in 1959. It has since been held annually, except in 1980. It is gratifying that Bangladesh has been participating at this IMO quite regularly during the recent past. The function was presided over by the Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Professor Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir. He congratulated the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of BRACU for successfully organizing this Third Inter-University Mathematics Olympiad in technical collaboration with Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS). He expressed his opinion that this Olympiad had achieved its goal of motivating the participants to improve their analytical and problem solving skills. Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad, Chair of the Organizing Committee delivered the welcome address. He said that the budding mathematicians who were participating in the competition should fill in the gaps left by the great mathematicians like Varaha Mihir, Arya Bhatta, Leelabati, Ramanujan, Abdus Salam and so many others who were born and left their marks in mathematics and astronomy in the past in this very subcontinent.

Out of 250 students who registered online, a total of 146 students participated finally. The syllabus of the olympiad included calculus and coordinate geometry, differential equations, linear algebra, vector algebra, complex variables and basic theory of probability and statistics. Questions were divided into two groups: The duration of the analytical part was one hour and another thirty minutes were allocated for MCQ's. The language of the Olympiad was English. The competition selected 10 winners for the 10th position to the 1st position. The first prize winner Sheikh Ziauddin, of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) got Tk. 10,000. The second and third prize winners were Forsad Al Hossain and Md. Emroz Khan of the same department who got TK. 7,000 and Tk. 4,000 respectively. The fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh prizes went to Md. Rezaul Karim, Moinul Hossain Rahat, Md. Mukhlasur Rahman Tanvir and Moinul Hossain Rahat also of the Department of EEE, BUET. The eighth prize winner was Md. Nazim Uddin Bhuiyan from the Department of Mathematics, University of Dhaka. The ninth prize was won by A. S. M. Sohidul Islam of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, BUET and the tenth prize winner was again from the EEE Department, BUET, Partha Sarathi Sarker. The last seven winners got Tk. 2,000 each as prize money. The Chief Guest awarded crests, prize money and certificates to the winners of the competition. The Closing and Prize Awarding Ceremony was followed by dinner.

Publications:

A. Articles published in Peer-reviewed national and international journals

- Farzana Ahmed, Abdullah-Al-Emran. Computational Genomic Study of LTP Pathway in the Context of Raf/KSR Homologue in Human and Chimpanzee. International Journal of Biosciences. 1(4): 36-50, 2011.

- Abdullah-Al-Emran, Farzana Ahmed, Sanwarul Kabir, Md. Mahbubur Rahman, SM Shahed. Investigation of Antimicrobial Activity of Ethanolic Leaf-Fruit Extract of Terminalia arjuna against Multi-Drug Resistance (MDR) Bacteria in Bangladesh. Journal of Applied Environmental and Biological Sciences (JAEBS), 1(5): 90-95, 2011.

- A Bioinformatics Approach. Sanwarul Kabir, Abdullah-Al-Emran, Zinia Nowshin, Farzana Ahmed. Investigation of Molecular Biology of Leukaemia Inhibitory Factor (LIF). International Journal of Biosciences. 1(3): 20-28, 2011.

- Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Abdullah-Al-Emran, Sajal K Shaha, Md. Liakot Ali, Sitesh S Bachar, Farzana Ahmed. Distribution of ABO and Rhesus Blood Groups Among the Population of Mymenshing District and the Students of University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. Ibrahim Cardiac Medical Journal 1(1): 33-35, 2011.

- Abdullah-Al-Emran, Farzana Ahmed. Type2 Diabetes susceptible loci PPARγ2 is not associated with Type1 Diabetes at age of ~30 in Bangladeshi healthy people. International Journal of Biosciences. 1(2): 1-6, 2011.

- Abdullah-Al-Emran, SM Shahed, Farzana Ahmed, Sajal K Shaha, Sitesh S Bachar, Sreedam C Das. Evaluation of Brine Shrimp Lethality and Antimicrobial Activity of Azadirachtha indica Leaf Extract on Some Drug Resistance Bacteria in Bangladesh. Pharmacognosy Journal, 2011, 3(20): 66-71, 2011.

- A. K. M. Akther Hossain and M. L. Rahman. Enhancement of microstructure and initial permeability due to Cu substitution in Ni0.50-xCuxZn0.50Fe2O4 ferrites. Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials Vol 323, Issue 15, 1954-1962, 2011

- M. L. Rahman, M. H. R. Khan, S. T. Mahmud and A. K. M. Akther Hossain. Sintering temperature dependent permeability of nanocrystalline Ni0.20Cu0.30Zn0.50Fe2O4 ferrite. Journal of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, Vol. 35, No. 1, 67-75, 2011

- M. L. Rahman, M. H. R. Khan, M. O. Faruk and A. K. M. Akther Hossain. Structural and Magnetic properties of Ni0.45-xCu(x+y)Zn0.55-yFe2O4. International Conference on Magnetic Materials (ICMM-2010), AIP Conf. Proc. 1347, pp. 210-213, 2011

- F. Alam, M. L. Rahman and A. K. M. Akther Hossain. Impact of Cr3+ on the structural and magnetic properties of Zn-Cr-Zn ferrites. Proceedings of the International Conference on Advances in Electrical Engineering (ICAEE-2011), Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 19-20, pp. 280-284, 2011.

- U. A. Mofiz, M. R. Amin, and P. K. Shukla. Growing electrostatic modes in the isothermal pair plasma of the pulsar magnetosphere. Astrophys. and Space Sci., 11, 2011, DOI: 10.1007/s10509-011-0845-0

- U. A. Mofiz. On earthquake solutions in ionospheric plasma. Proc. International Conference On Multimedia Technology, July 26-28, 2011, Hangzhou, China (Accepted).

- Sohana Jahan, Md. Sazib Hasan, A Comparative study on Algorithms for Shortest-Route Problem and Some Extensions, International Journal of Basic & Applied Sciences. Volume-11 Issue- 6, pg 167-177.

- K.M. Abedin, A.F.M.Y. Haider, M. A. Rony, Z.H. Khan. Identification of multiple rare earths and associated elements in raw monazite sands by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy. Optics and Laser Technology, 43(1): 45-49, 2011.

B. Conference Proceedings (ICAEE-2011)

A research article of Muhammad Lutfor Rahman of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences titled "Impact of Cr3+ on the structural and magnetic properties of Mn-Cr-Zn ferrites" was presented at the International Conference on Advances in Electrical Engineering 2011 (ICAEE-2011), which was held at Independent University, Dhaka on December 19-20, 2011. The work presented in this paper mainly focused on the magnetic properties of the bulk magnetic materials which are preferably used for high frequency devices in the field of communication technologies. The organizer of the conference will arrange for the publication of this work in an international journal in near future.

Dr. Aparna Islam of the the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences presented an article in "Fifth International Botanical Conference 2011 Souvenir: 44-45pp. 2011' entitled "Climate change, emerging infectious diseases and food security".

C. Publication of Books

A book entitled "Bongshogoti Bidyar Mulkotha O Gene Prokoushol" was published in a ceremony on Oct 1, 2011 at the Center for Excellence, University of Dhaka. Dr. ASM Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor of the University of Dhaka chaired the book launching programme. A chapter in this book entitled "Udbhit Gene Prokoushol: Agrobactarium Poddhoti" has been contributed by Dr. Aparna Islam of the MNS Department.

The chapter consists of various plant genetic transformation techniques with emphasis on Agrobacterium-mediated method, its limitations and factors influencing its efficiency. Two more books were published by two MNS faculty listed bellow:

- Jebunnesa Chowdhury. Efficient in Vitro Regeneration and Transformation Protocol for Tomato: An application of biotechnology, to develop genotype independent regeneration and transformation protocol for Bangladeshi tomato varieties. Publisher- VDM Verlag Dr. Müller. Germany. (ISBN 978-3-639-34114-0) 2011.

- Mohammad Maruf Ahmed. Generalized inverse: properties, presentations and applications., Publisher- LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing GmbH & Co. KG, Germany. (ISBN # 978-3-8433-9348-5) 2011.

D. Publication of Newspaper Articles

An article titled "Dissecting the matrix of knowledge based economy and society" by Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed of the MNS department was published in 'The Independent' on March 11, 2011. In this article the author stressed on the knowledge based economic development of Bangladesh, which is stable, self-sustained and ever growing on a solid foundation. The experience of India and the countries of in the 'Confucian Belt' like China, Japan, Korea and Singapore are cited in this article. He has other publications in the newspaper listed below:

- Dr. Mofiz Uddin Ahmed. Astrophysical Dark Matter. The Daily Star, Dhaka Tuesday January 4, 2011.

- Dr. Mofiz Uddin Ahmed. Predicting Earthquake! The Daily Star, 27 September, 2011.

- Dr. Mofiz Uddin Ahmed. Glimpse of 'god particle'. The Daily Star, Dhaka Tuesday December 20, 2011.

DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY

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DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY



The Department of Pharmacy BRAC University started its journey from June, 2010 with seven students in the undergraduate programme (1st year 1st semester). The department is functioning according to the Bangladesh Pharmacy Council rules and regulation. Unlike other disciplines, Pharmacy has two semesters per year where the duration of each semester is six months.

Meanwhile, two undergraduate laboratories have been setup with limited space but soon other labs and research lab will be established. Apart from the general chemicals, glass wares and equipment for general practical purposes for the undergraduate students, a sophisticated rotary evaporator and a double beam UV spectrophotometer have been added to develop a research laboratory.

Aim and Objectives:

Pharmacy education provides opportunity for the students to know the basic concepts of medicines originated from natural sources. Moreover, they are provided with the knowledge of physiology (to know the function of the organs in the body where drugs act) and pharmacology (fate of the drug inside the body). So our main objective is to produce quality pharmacists who will produce quality medicine for the better health care with highest efficacy and least side effects.

Appointment of New Faculties

- Professor Dr. Ashik Mosaddik joined the department as its Chairperson on 01 June, 2011.
- Ms Shahana Sharmin joined as a lecturer on 1st February, 2011 and on 26 June 2011 Ms Zara Sheikh, Ms Ronok Zahan and Ms Saki Sultana also joined as lecturers in Pharmacy Department.
- Md. Anwar Ul Islam joined the department as a Laboratory Technical Officer (LTO) on March 20, 2011.
- Mr. Anamul Haque joined the Department of Pharmacy on October 24, 2011 as teaching assistant.

Awards and Achievements:

- Professor Ashik Mosaddik, Chairperson, Pharmacy Department won the prestigious Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) award for the Young Scientists 2011. Under an agreement between the Bangladesh

Academy of Sciences (BAS) and Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), the Academy nominates every year a number of young scientists (below 40 years) from Bangladesh based on their outstanding and academic research achievements. TWAS has similar agreements

with thirty five other countries. Professor Mosaddik is one of the four recipients of this award this year from Bangladesh.

- Ronok Zahan and Shahana Sharmin, Lecturers of Department of Pharmacy received grants from Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 23 November, 2011 at 'The Fellowship Giving Ceremony' that took place at Osmani Memorial Hall, Dhaka for their research projects on "Anticancer drug" and "Evaluation of the quality of some frequently prescribed drugs (oral liquid dosage forms) for children" respectively.

Departure

Professor Dr. M. Ekramul Haque left BRAC University and joined the Pharmacy Department, University of Rajshahi.

Seminar:

Department of Pharmacy organized a seminar on "Advances on Cancer Research" on 14 September, 2011 at UB 0223 seminar room for the first time. The key speaker of the seminar was Abdullah Al-Amin, research scientist of Karolinska Institute, Sweden. Professor A.A. Ziauddin Ahmad, Chairperson, MNS Department, Professor Dr. Ashik Mosaddik, Chairperson, Department of Pharmacy, Dr. Malabika Sarker from MPH, Dr. Selina Akther from BRACU medical centre and faculty members and students of Pharmacy and MNS departments attended the seminar. The Parmecy Department also invited Dr. Kaisar Ali Talukder, Senior Scientist, ICDDR,B and Dr. Shamin Iqbal in the seminar to enhance the research collaboration between Pharmacy Department, BRACU and ICDDR,B. Mr. Tareq Ibn Morshed, lecturer, Pharmacy Department conducted the seminar.

Publication:

In 2011, faculty members of the Pharmacy Department published in national and international peer reviewed journals. The list of their publications has been summarized as follows:

- Mahmud Tareq Ibn Morshed, Md. Anwar UL Islam (2011), Studies of a new Streptomyces species isolated from Bangladeshi soil ISBN # 978-3-8443-1063-4, Lap Lambert Academic Publishing GmbH & Co. KG, Germany.

- M. Asadujjaman, M.S. Hossain, M.T.I. Morshed, A.S.M. Anisuzzaman, M. Ahmed and A. Islam (2011), Antihyperlipidemic and hepatoprotective effects of different fractions of Brassica oleracea in alloxan induced diabetic rats. International Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research. 2(7): 748-754.

- S. Sultana, K. H. Khosru (2011), Analgesic and Antidiarrhoeal Activities of Lawsonia inermis International Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research, Vol. 2(12): 3183-3188.

- Saki Sultana, Kamrul Hasan Khosru (2011), Practice of using gifts as promotional materials for marketing of pharmaceutical products in Bangladesh: A survey conducted on general physicians and representatives from pharmaceutical companies, Stamford Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 4(2): 13-18.

- Abdulla Al Masud, Mohammad Saydur Rahman, Towfika Islam, Saki Sultana, Moynul Hasan and A.B.M Faroque (2011), Development and Validation of of a RP-HPLC Method for the Estimation of Amlexanox in Oral Paste Dosage Form, Dhaka University Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 10(2): 67-70.

- Hyoen ji, Jeong Yong Moon, Ashik Mosaddik and Somi Kim Cho (2011). Comparative Antioxidant and Antiproliferative Activities of Red and White Pitayas and Their Correlation with Flavonoid and Polyphenol Content. Journal of Food Sciences 76 (1):38-45. Publisher: Elsevier Science, USA,

- Neung Jae Jun, Ashik Mosaddik, Jeong Yong Moon, Ki-Chang Jang, Dong-Sun Lee, Kwang Seok Ahn and Somi K. Cho (2011) Cytotoxic Activity of ? -Caryophyllene Oxide Isolated from Jeju Guava (Psidium cattleianum Sabine) Leaf , Records of Natural Products., 5:3; 242-246.

- Tarannum Naz, Ashik Mosaddik, Md. Motiur Rahman, Ilias Muhammad, Md. Ekramul Haque and Somi Kim Cho (2011). Antimicrobial, antileishmanial and cytotoxic compounds from Piper chaba. Natural Product Research, 3: 1-8. Publisher: Taylor and Francis, London, UK.

- Ronok Zahan, Badrul Alam, Saiful Islam, Gopal Sarker, Nargis Chowdhury, Salman Hosain, Ashik Mosaddik, Mele Jesmin and Ekramul Haque (2011) Anticancer activity of Alangium salvifolum flower in Ehrlich Ascites Carcinoma bearing Mice. International Journal of cancer Research. (DOI: 10.3923/ijcr.2011). Publisher: Asian Network for Scientific Information.

- Gopal Sarker, Ronok Zahan, Badrul Alam, Saiful Islam, Ashik Mosaddik and Ekramul Islam (2011). Antibacterial activity of Flacoutia jangomas and Flacoutia sepiaria. Int. J. Pharmacy and life sciences 2(7): 878-883. Publisher: Pharmacy and sciences, India.

- Saiful Islam, Ronok Zahan, Laizuman Nahar, Badrul Alam, Marufa Naznin, Gopal Sarker, Ashik Mosaddik, Ekramul Haque. (2011). Antibecterial, Insecticidal and in vivo cytotoxicity activitics of Salix tetrasperma. International Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research, 2(8): 2103-2108. Publisher: Society of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research, India.

- Saiful Islam, Ronok Zahan, Badrul Alam, Marufa Naznin, Ashik Mosaddik, Ekramul Haque. (2011). Pharmacological study of the Peltophorum ptercarpum flower. Int. J. Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research, 2(8): 2309-2311. Publisher: Society of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research, India.

- Saiful Islam, Ronok Zahan, Badrul Alam, Marufa Naznin, Gopal Sarkar, Ashik Mosaddik, Ekramul Haque. (2011). Studies on antibacterial and insecticidal activities of Suregada multiflora. Libyan Agriculture Research Center Journal Internation, 2(2): 62-67. Publisher: International Digital Organization for Scientific Information, Dubai.

- M. Saiful Islam, M. Badrul Alam, Ronok Zahan, Gopal C. Sarker, Nargis S. Chowdhury, M. Maruf Khan, Mahedi Hasan, M. Saifur Rahman, M. A. Mosaddik, Mele Jesmin, M. Ekramul Haque (2011). In vitro Antioxidant and Anti-neoplastic Activities of Ocimum sanctum leaves in Ehrlich Ascites Carcinoma Bearing Mice. International Journal of Cancer Research.7 (3):254-262.

- Ronok Zahan, Farhana Alam Ripa, M. Badrul Alam, M. Anamul Haque, M.A.Mosaddik, Laizuman Nahar (2011). Hypoglycemic and in Vitro Antioxidant Effects of Methanolic extract of Marsilea quadrifolia Plant. Pharmacognosy Journal.3 (26): 86-92.

- Md. Abdul Kader, Md. Abdul Muhit, Md. Ekramul Haque, Md. Ashik Mosaddik and Mir Imam Ibne Wahed (2011), Triterpenoids and phytosteroids from stem bark of Crataeva nurvala buch ham. Shumaia Parvin, Journal of applied pharmaceutical Sciences, 1 (9), 47-50.

BRAC Business School (BBS)

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BRAC Business School (BBS)



The mission of BRAC Business School (BBS) is to contribute to the creation and dissemination of knowledge in the field of Management and Business. BBS strives to improve management, effectiveness and efficiency of business and non-business organizations through excellence in business education, training, research, publication and advisory services. Pursuant to its mission, the school offers an undergraduate and two graduate programs: Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Masters of Business Administration (MBA) and Executive Masters in Business Administration (EMBA). Owing to the very high quality of the program, and its commitment to the business of Bangladesh, a rising number of applicants have been consistently attracted to the programs. Some of the finest faculty members in business education are employed at the school and their endeavours are supplemented by high-class practitioners. BBS alumni are the brand ambassadors of the university and are proving their excellence at home and abroad.

Conferences & Summits

- **"Inertia" Marketing Summit -**

The Management Department of St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, India organized an international summit headlined "Inertia" in the college's Park Street Campus on 28-29 January 2011, and attended by teacher-student contingents from colleges and universities in India, Singapore and Bangladesh. The BRAC Business School team was the only contingent from Bangladesh representing a Bangladeshi university. The BBS student team consisting of Ratul Dev, Hiroq Dev Roy, Sabbir Hossain Chowdhury and Tunvir Islam Faysal, participated in two events: a case study presentation and a crisis management exercise. They were lauded by the audience for their admirable delivery and enthusiasm. Mr. Shamim Ehsanul Haque,



lecturer, BBS, was the team mentor. Who delivered talks on: "Tracking the Trends in Marketing in the 21st Century", and "Towards Cutting Edge Marketing Organizations-Strategies for Global Competitiveness." The talks had been well received by the large audience and a very lively discussion ensued. The summit organizers presented the BRAC University speaker and the student team with special crests to mark the occasion.

- **HR Summit 2011 -** Bangladesh Society for Human Resource Management (BSHRM) and Bangladesh Brand Forum (BBF) jointly organized the HR Summit 2011 on 25 June 2011 at Winter Garden, Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka. Renowned national and international HR professionals participated and shared their valued opinions in the summit. Ms. Kohinur Akhtar and Md. Tanvi Newaz, HR faculty members of BRAC Business School, BRAC

University, took part in the day-long summit. This was the first HR Summit held in Bangladesh where current HR practices and strategic role of Human Resource Management were emphasized.

- **BBS students and faculty members at Prof. Kotler's Marketing 3.0 seminar -** Prof. Philip Kotler, an idol in the academic arena for the revolutionary Four P's of Marketing, visited



Dhaka for the first time on an invitation from Bangladesh Brand Forum in June 2011.The 80-year-old professor at JL Kellogg Graduate School of Management of North-western University, USA, is acclaimed for writing textbooks and broadening the idea of marketing. In this visit- Dr. Kotler advanced his take on Marketing 3.0 as a synergistic process to customers as multidimensional, values-driven people, even as budding associates, moving on from the preceding, conventional schemes of Marketing 1.0 and 2.0, which are product-based and consumer-based, respectively. 100 students, with marketing background, were selected from BRAC Business School, to attend Dr Kotler's Session for students at Mirpur Indoor Stadium on 8 June 2011. On 9 June 2011, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Md Golam Samdani Fakir and Prof. Mamun Rashid, BRAC Business School, alongside 8 BBS Faculty Members, attended the day-long Professional Certified Master class 2011, for the marketers of the corporate world at Radisson Water Garden Hotel. In both these sessions, Prof. Kotler reinforced the importance of two categories - youth and women for modern marketing.

Workshops

- **Advanced Research Methodology Course for the faculty members of BBS -** BRAC University structured a special course on Advanced Research Methodology for the faculty members of BBS starting from the month of January 2011. Dr. Syed Shahadat Hossain, Professor of Applied Statistics, University of Dhaka, was assigned to facilitate the course. A total of 21 BBS faculty members attended the course, specially designed to enhance their research skill and to prepare them to conduct management research on different areas.

- **Pro-Vice Chancellor Meets the EMBA Faculties -** On 12 February 2011, BBS organized a meeting of the EMBA faculties with the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, to discuss on various issues related to the program. Prof. Fakir shared in detail why the university decided to go ahead with the Executive MBA program and what the expectations of the University are from such a program and the people involved with it. The Pro-VC emphasized on the need to maintain quality in providing education. The EMBA faculties also shared their views and expressed their satisfaction with the level of performance and seriousness of the existing EMBA students in general. They emphasized on the need to maintain a high quality standard in the admission procedure and to follow a disciplined and rule bound system.

- **BBS Faculties visit BRAC Programs -** On 26 February 2011, BBS faculty members along with the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Md Golam Samdani Fakir toured Manikgonj to observe the activities of different programs initiated by BRAC, namely the microfinance program, the health program, BRAC primary school, Polli Somaj, Human Rights and Legal Education Class, Ayesha Abed Foundation: a handicraft production and training center, Sanitary Napkin production center, Horticulture Nursery. The tour was very effective, encouraging and refreshing and the enthusiastic participation of the faculties was appreciated.

- **Brainstorming session on "visibility of EMBA program" -** A brainstorming session was arranged on 23 June 2011 at BBS with the Heads of HR from some reputed corporate houses in order to receive their views and ideas on how to create more awareness among the target group and also how to make the EMBA program more real world oriented. Mr. Syed Tanvir Husain, Head of HR, Airtel Bharti, Ms. Sheifta Anwar, Head of HR, Sanofi Aventis, Mr.Kazi Islam, Ex-CEO, GP IT, Mr. M. Zulfiquar Hussain, CEO & Lead Consultant, Grow N Excel, (Ex-Head of HR, Nestle), Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, Prof. Mamun Rashid, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship Development, BRAC University, Air Cdre (Retd.) Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC University, Mr. Shawkat Kamal, Asst. Prof. & Coordinator, EMBA program, BBS, were present during the session.

Seminars

- **"Marketing Possibilities"** - A seminar titled "Marketing Possibilities" was organized for students by Mr. Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Asst. Prof., BBS, and Coordinator of BBA Program on 24 March 2011 at BRAC University. The speaker of the program was Mr. Tim Steel, the Advisor of Tiger Tours. He talked about the importance of introducing Hospitality Management Training in Bangladesh. He particularly stressed on learning through practical marketing experience, and being bold and courageous when implementing ideas.

- **"Entrepreneurship in Bangladesh"** - During March 2011, two guest speakers - Mr. Asif Saleh, Director Communication, BRAC and Ms. Sonia Bashir Kabir, Director, Business Development (South East Asia), Microsoft were invited by BBS to give a talk on "Entrepreneurship in Bangladesh". Mr. Saleh talked about E-Commerce, how Bangladesh is opening up to it and the entrepreneurial opportunities in this sector. Ms. Kabir discussed about Entrepreneurship and encouraged students to leap up and bring out the best in them. Both the sessions were very interactive with spontaneous participation by students. The speakers were gracious to offer their guidance to the students and encouraged students to be in touch with them. These sessions were arranged by BBS Faculty Ms. Mahtab Faruqui.

- **"Supply Chain Management for Competitive Advantage"**- A Specialty Topic Seminar on "Supply Chain Management-for Competitive Advantage" was held on 21 June 2011 at BRAC University. The resource person was Mohammad Ejazur Rahman, the Managing Director and Lead Consultant of Mind Mapper Ltd and the CEO of ISCEA-Bangladesh. Mind Mapper Ltd is a promising new generation management consulting service whereas ISCEA, the International Supply Chain Education Alliance is the world's leading supply chain education, certification and recognition body with its headquarters in the USA. Almost 150 students and some members of the faculty attended the speech. The organizer of the seminar was Ms. Mimnun Sultana, Lecturer, BBS.

Talks & Discussions

- **"Targeting the Ultra Poor"-** A presentation was held at BRAC Business School on 20 January 2011 on the topic "Targeting the Ultra Poor" conducted by Ms. Rabeya Yasmin, Director, Ultra Poor Program, BRAC. The presentation was organized as an effort by BBS to familiarize the faculty members with the diverse dimensions of poverty reduction programs BRAC undertakes to serve the poorest of the poor. Prof. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro- Vice Chancellor, BRAC University and the faculty members of BRAC Business School were present in the occasion. The presentation was followed by a participative discussion.

- **"The Capital Market of Bangladesh"** - Mr. Mamun Rashid, Citigroup Country Officer was invited to lead a discussion on the Bangladesh Capital Market on 3 February 2011. He mentioned the potentials and capacity constraints of different sectors in Bangladesh. The presentation was followed by a question-answer session.

● **"Entrepreneurship Development" -** A Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was arranged on "Entrepreneurship Development," held on 15 May 2011 at BRAC Business School. Prof. Mamun Rashid, Director, CED, was the



moderator of the discussion. Among many distinguished individuals- Prof. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, Maj. Gen. Amjad Khan Choudhury, Managing Director & CEO, PRAN Group, Mr. Syed Nasim Manzur, Managing Director, Apex Adelchi Footwear Ltd., Mr. Mahbub Hossain, Executive Director, BRAC, Mr. Zahid Ibne Hai, DGM & Head of SME Division, IDLC, graced the FGD with their presence. They shared their experiences as entrepreneurs and the obstacles they dealt with during the initial days and suggested how CED can coordinate with other business schools and form a strong foundation.

● **"BRAC Health Programme" -** Mr. Faruque Ahmed, Director, BRAC Health Programme, was invited to the faculty meeting of BRAC Business School on 26May 2011 to share the activities of the programme. Mr. Ahmed's deliberation focused on the various health care problems of poor people dwelling in the rural and urban areas of Bangladesh and how the committed efforts of BRAC health programme brought successes in controlling high fertility and mortality rates, increasing neonatal child survival, improving mothers' health care. The faculty members of the business school discussed with him on various avenues where they could help the programme in building its efficiency toward achieving its goals and objectives.

● **"The State of the Economy and the Challenges Ahead" -**

A dialogue on "The State of the Economy and the Challenges ahead" was held on 6 June 2011 at BRAC Business School. The welcome note was presented by Mr. Mamun Rashid, Prof. BBS, and the session was chaired by Prof. Syed M. Hashemi, Director BRAC Development Institute. The key note presentation was made by Mr. Alamgir Morshed, head of global markets,



Standard Chartered Bank and an adjunct faculty at BBS. The distinguished guests of the session were Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam, Former adviser, ministry of finance and planning, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh, Dr. Zahid Hussain, Senior Economist, The World Bank, Dr. Binayak Sen, Research Director, BIDS and other discussants were Ms. Parveen Mahmud, President ICAB, Mr.Adeeb Khan, Partner Rahman Huq, Mr. Jalal Ahmed, Vice Chairman, EPB and Shameem Raihanuddin, Management Consultant.

● **"Business Process Outsourcing: Next Possible Jump for Bangladesh" -** A dialogue was arranged by BRAC Business School on "Business Process Outsourcing: Next Possible Jump for Bangladesh" on 9 June 2011. The distinguished guests were Mr. Kazi N. Islam, Former CEO of Grameen phone IT Ltd., Mr. Gurojit Singh Khalsa from World Bridge International, a USA based company with extensive experience in the BPO industry, and Mr. Ahmadul Hoq, President of Bangladesh Call Centre Association. The session was chaired by Professor Syed M. Hashemi, Director, BDI.

- **"Bangladesh Defence Budget" -** A dialogue on "Bangladesh Defence Budget" was held on 29



June 2011 at the GDLN Centre, BRAC University. The welcome note was presented by Mr. Mamun Rashid, Prof., BRAC Business School and the session was chaired by Dr.Mahbub Hossain, Executive Director, BRAC. The key note paper was presented by Air Cdre (Retd.) Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC University. The chief guest of the dialogue was Mr. Faruk Khan, MP, Commerce Minister, Govt. of People's Republic of Bangladesh. Maj Gen. Amjad Khan Choudhury (retd.), CEO, PRAN Group, Mr. M. Humayun Kabir, Former Ambassador & VP, BE, Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member, Planning Commission, Lt. Gen. Zahir, Lt. Gen. Mahbubur Rahman (retd.), Mr. A. K. Azad, President, FBCCI, Brig. Gen. Md Abdul Halim, Director, Budget, Bangladesh Army and Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University were the distinguished guests and discussants. The focus of the discussion was on efficiency and transparency of managing the defence expenditures.

Awards & Achievements

Asia's Best Business School Leadership Award-

BRAC Business School received Asia's Best Business School Leadership Award presented by CMO Asia with CMO Council as its Strategic Partner and Stars of the Industry Group as a research partner. Professor Dr Md Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro Vice Chancellor of BRAC University received the award on behalf of the BRAC Business School. The program was held on 22 July 2011 at Suntec, Singapore. The event was attended by senior leaders, top educational institutes from countries like, Bangladesh, Singapore, Thailand, Sri-Lanka, Indonesia, Malaysia, India, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, UAE, South Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea,



Japan, China, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Vietnam, United Kingdom, USA and HR Heads of various organizations. The recipient of the afore-mentioned award has been selected based on the primary data, student perception, students who passed out and holding positions in different organizations are also considered as source of information.

Publications

" Journal Articles:

- Professor Lt. Gen. (Retd) Mohd. Aminul Karim, "Human Resource Development in Bangladesh: Strategic Perspective" has been published in Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (biiss), Vol 31, No 4, 2010. (ISSN 1010-9536)

- Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor "Predicting Labour Unrest Through the Lenses of Theory of Planned Behavior: Cases from BEPZA", BRAC University Journal, Vol. VII, Nos.1 & 2, 2010 (Published in 2011), pp.23-32(ISSN 1811-3079)

- Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor "Measuring general Consumer's Perception about bottled mineral water exists in Bangladesh" has beenaccepted for presentation

and publication for Global Business and Social Science Research Conference to be held on 20-21 June, 2011 at Radisson Blu Hotel, Beijing, China

- Muhammad Intisar Alam & Afreen Choudhury, "Factors Affecting Retailers Attitude towards Manufacturers: A Study on Unilever", Journal of Economics and Behavioural Studies (JEBS) Vol: 2, No: 4 Page: 138-150, April 2011

- Saadia Shabnam, Muhammad Intisar Alam & Afreen Choudhury, "Social Media Marketing: An Exploratory Analysis on the Emerging Method of Communication," the Asian Business Research Conference sponsored by World Business Institute, Australia and organized by Research and Publication International, Bangladesh on 23 -24 December, 2011

Students' Activities

- Orientation Session for the Students of Executive MBA Program -An orientation session for the students who joined the Executive MBA program of BRAC University in the Spring



semester of the current academic year was held at the BBS conference room on 12 January 2011. The program started with an ice breaking exercise through which the participants of the program introduced each other. This was followed by a welcome speech by the Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir. The various aspects of the Executive MBA program were then discussed by the program coordinator, Mr. Shawkat Kamal. The event concluded with a highly interactive discussion session.

- **MBA Indoor Games Competition 2011 -** MBA Forum has organized "Indoor Games Competition 2011" from 13-20 February 2011. The games included carom, table tennis and chess. Mr. Anup Chowdhury, Coordinator, MBA program, was present in the inauguration session. Mr. Jabir Al Mursalin, Mr. Intisar Alam and Mr. Saif Hossain, lecturers, of BBS were also present on those days and played the role of judges.



- **EMBA Residential Weekend Program: Spring 2011-**The residential weekend program for EMBA students took place on 17-18 March 2011. A total of 16 students participated in the program. The program was designed and conducted by Professor Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, and Ms. Samina Anzum, Lecturer, TLC. The program was coordinated by Mr. Jabed Rasel, DCO, EMBA Program, under the guidance of Mr. Shawkat Kamal, Assistant Professor, BRAC Business School. The program was broadly divided into three parts: a socialization session , a session on the "Seven Habits of Effective People," and lastly a session broadcasting a documentary on BRAC. Later in the session, the Pro-VC answered various queries from the participants regarding BRAC and its activities.



- **BRACU students and faculties attended Harvard World Model United Nations Conference 2011, Singapore -**



Five students from BRAC University along with two faculty members Suntu Kumar Ghosh and Anup Chowdhury from BRAC Business School attended Harvard World Model United Nations Conference 2011 which was held during 14-18 March 2011 in Singapore. Around 2500 delegates from 65 countries, 225 international universities attended World Model MUN 2011 in Singapore. The program was divided into different committees e.g. SPECPOL, WHO, WTO etc. Ratul Dev and Sabbir Hossain Chowdhury attended Special, Political, and Decolonization (SPECPOL) Committee. Jahirul Islam Asif attended WHO committee. Shabab Ahmed Mahfuz and Md. Tanjim Ferdous attended Historical General Assembly (HGA) Committee: Apartheid in South Africa, 1977. They had to present their position papers and negotiate among different countries. BRAC University team received certificates for their successful delegation.

- **Japanese Students visited to BRAC University -** Two students from Japan- Akira Iwamizu, from the University of Tokyo, and Tomomi Sugimoto, from Rikkyo University, paid a visit to BBS, BRAC University on 30 March 2011. They were received by Mr. Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the BBA program. BRAC University was represented by Athina Shaolin Audity, student of BBS and Iffat Zahan, student of the Department of Economics and Social Sciences. The visitors demonstrated strong interest in the programs facilitated by BRAC University. They also



expressed their pleasure of visiting Bangladesh and conveyed their appreciation on the initiatives undertaken by BRAC and BRAC University and also expressed their aspiration to expand their learning in the development programs conducted here.

- **Prize Giving Ceremony of Indoor Games Competition 2011**





The prize giving ceremony of "Indoor Games Competition 2011" for MBA students had been held on 10 March 2011. Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, PhD, Pro-VC BRAC University was the chief guest and distributed the prizes among participants and encouraged the facilitation of such competitions.

- **EMBA orientation Program: Summer-2011 -**

The orientation Program for the EMBA students joining in Summer 2011 semester was held on 11 May 2011 at the BBS Conference room. The session was chaired by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University. Prof. Mamun Rashid also attended the session. The session was an interactive one where the participants shared their views and expectations of the EMBA program. Mr. Shawkat Kamal, the EMBA Coordinator, presented a brief overview of the structure of the program for the participating students. The overall coordination of the program was done by Mr. Jabed Rasel, DCO, EMBA, BBS.

- **Internship Presentation of BBS Students:**

Spring 2011 - The internship presentation for Spring 2011 of BRAC Business School (BBS) was held on 19 May, 2011. To fulfill the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Business Administration in BRAC University, 27 students from BRAC Business School made their presentation in front of different faculty members of BBS.

- **BBS Rain & Rhythm -**

As part of the celebration for the completion of the ten years of BRAC Business School (BBS), the School organized a musical event for its current and former students. The program was highly participative and was organized entirely by the BBS students. Professor Mamun Rashid, Director, CED, delivered the main speech at the beginning of the program. The speech was followed by a video show which portrayed the journey of BBS over the last ten years. The main program featured around a dozen songs from various genres performed by the students and alumnus of BBS. The organization of the program was done by the senior students of BBS and involved active participation from Ms. Anahita Ahmed, Lecturer, BBS, Ms. Sayla Sowat Siddiqui, Lecturer, BBS, Mr. Husain Salilul Akareem, Lecturer, BBS, and Mr. Jabed Rasel (DCO, EMBA Program). The overall supervision of the event was done by Mr.Shawkat Kamal, Asst.Prof., BBS.



- **EMBA Residential Weekend -**

A Residential Weekend session for the EMBA students was organized on 14-15 July 2011.





Around 40 students from the EMBA Program participated in the event. The program included a socialization session, three lectures. The first one was by Prof. Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, where he discussed on BRAC and its various activities. Then Prof. Mamun Rashid, Director, BBS, conducted a session on the current status and future prospect of Bangladesh Capital Market. And finally, Mr. Asif Iqbal, Executive Director, Meghna Group of Industries, delivered a highly interactive session on Brand Marketing. Mr. Jabed Rasel, DCO, EMBA, organized the event under the supervision of Mr. Shawkat Kamal, Coordinator, EMBA Program.

- **BRAC Business School Introduces "BBS Master Class" -**

On 16 July 2011 BRAC Business School, in collaboration with Dhaka Bank Ltd., launched a unique program for its senior BBA, MBA and EMBA students, titled "BBS Master Class" at GDLN Centre. It is a series of 7 sessions with the objective of helping the participants to conceptualize the basic issues of business and



their implications to the present day business world. The lectures were delivered by the best business teachers, leading macro economists, accountants and industry experts both from home and abroad with proven track in their respective fields. The aim was to fulfill the long felt demand of establishing academia-industry linkage in the country. The program is jointly coordinated by Ms. Afsana Akhtar, Asst. Prof., BBS and Mr. Saif Hossain, Lecturer, BBS.

- **"BBS Master Class: Session 1" -** The first session of the BBS Master Class was held on 27 July 2011.The topic for this session was Human Resource Management. The session was divided into two parts. In the first part of the session, renowned global consultant, Dr. Syed Saad made his presentation on "Trends in Human Resource Management Practices in the US" and



"Strategic HR Management." The second part of the session was conducted by Mr. Arif Shahriar, COO-Corporate and Group Head of HR of Rahimafrooz Group. His talk was on "Evolving HR and future" and "HR at Rahimafrooz." MBA, EMBA and BBA students of BRAC Business School having completed the Human Resource Management course and the HR people from Dhaka Bank Limited attended the session with great enthusiasm.

- **EMBA Program Guest Lecture -** The EMBA Program arranged a guest lecture for the students of the Managerial Finance course on 22 July 2011. The guest speaker was Al Imran Hossain Khan, Vice President, Corporate Amanah Banking, HSBC. The discussion included various aspects of Islamic banking concepts and myths. As the speaker also worked as investment banker in the Middle East, private equity markets and other forms of investment banking practices were also discussed during the session.

Guest Lecturers at BBS, July 2011:

- **Ms. Syeda Shaharbanu Shahbazi,** Senior Lecturer, BBS, organized two sessions with guest lecturers from the corporate world for the students of Organizational Behavior and Introduction to Business courses. The Head of Operations Assurance of LM & Ericsson Bangladesh Ltd, Mr. Ali Hasan Abedi gave a talk on "Employee Management System, grooming up leaders and nurturing right organizational behaviors across the whole organization." In Ericsson this system is popularly known as "It Begins with Us"; as it strongly believes in empowering its employees. While, for the class of Introduction to Business, Mr. Tashfeen Ahmed, Director, IFAD Groups, made an astonishing presentation on "Challenges and Opportunities of entrepreneurs in Bangladesh."

- Mr. Ehsan Aziz, Marketing Manager of Incepta Pharmaceuticals, gave a talk on "Exploring Export Market for Pharmaceuticals" as a guest lecturer of one class of International Marketing course. In the session, he covered various aspects of pharmaceutical business in

the country, informed students about how our pharmaceutical companies started exporting to foreign countries and discussed the concept of branded generics. He also shared his experience of visiting different countries for exploring markets of his company's product.

- Ms. Kulsum Popy arranged a session with a guest lecturer for Organizational Behavior class on 30 July 2011.The distinguished speaker for the session was Mr. Ashraf Bin Taj, Business Director, ACI Consumer Brand. The session focused on "The role of leaders in organization to ensure productivity, motivate employees and keep superior profitability."

- Mr. Nawsher Iqbal Siddiqui, one of the admired Territory Sales Manager of Reckitt Benckiser, Bangladesh, visited BBS for sharing his own exposures and experiences related to the field of Supply Chain in the course: Principles of Marketing. He shared his practical view related with importance of supply chain, its present condition, problems and their possible solutions in Bangladesh.

- Md. Tanvi Newaz, Lecturer, BBS, invited Mr. Mehboobur Rehman, former Head of Human Resource Division of Standard Chartered Bank and former President of Bangladesh Society for Human Resource Management, as a guest lecturer for the HR students on 14 July 2011. Mr. Rehman discussed several HR issues especially, "the role of line managers and current HR practices in Bangladesh." A number of BBS faculties and students attended the session.

- **"Entrepreneur Speaks"-**

BRAC Business School (BBS) launched a program titled "Entrepreneur Speaks"on 9 August 2011 with the support of Prime Bank Limited. In the "Entrepreneur Speaks" sessions, renowned entrepreneurs from all sectors of business, from micro-credit to large corporate: local and foreign, will be invited to share their stories of entrepreneurial achievements with the BBA, MBA and EMBA students of BRAC Business School. Managing Director of Prime Bank Limited was the special guest where he added that entrepreneurs get success through their rigorous effort, hard work, sincerity and commitment. He added that business accomplishments are attained by entrepreneurs not only through assuming risk but also by sheer focus and labor that they put in. Prof. Mamun Rashid, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship Development, also spoke at the ceremony along with Ms. Rahnuma Ahmed, Lecturer of BRAC Business School and Coordinator of BBS "Entrepreneur Speaks". The senior officials from Prime Bank Limited were also present at this inaugural occasion.



- **Entrepreneur Speaks: Session 1-**

The first session of "Entrepreneur Speaks" was jointly organized by Centre for entrepreneurship Development (CED), BBS, and Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF) on 26 September 2011. Ms. Geeteara Safia Choudhury, former Adviser to Interim Caretaker



Government and Chairman & Managing Director, Adcomm Limited, was present there as Guest of honour. In her inspiring speech, Ms. Geeteara shared her entrepreneurial stories with the students and presented the obstacles she faced as a woman entrepreneur in the society.

- **EMBA residential weekend -**

The EMBA residential weekend for the Fall semester of 2011 was held at Savar BCDM during 17-18 November 2011. A total of 40 students participated in the program. The program comprised of sessions on Business Strategy in the real world, Business Ethics, and Business Etiquette. The speakers included



Mr. Sarwar Ahmed, Managing Director, Syngenta Limited and Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, Professor, BRAC Business School. The overall organization of the program was done by Mr. Jabed Rasel, DCO, EMBA under the supervision of Mr. Shawkat Kamal, Asst. Prof. and Coordinator, Executive MBA Program, BBS.

- **"KALPURUSH 1971" - 160 minutes with freedom fighters -**

"Kalpurush 1971" was a Victory day program, organized for the first time by BRAC Business School (BBS) - the precious 160 minutes with the Freedom Fighters. The prog program was set in motion with the freedom fighters sharing their tragic, yet inspirational moments, preceded by a very poignant letter from the collection "EkatturerChhithi", read out by Ananda, a student of BRAC University. The distinguished



freedom fighters who gave their speech were Ferdausi Priyobhashini, ASM Shahidullah Khan Badal, Ajay Das Gupta, Mr. Mahfuz Anam, Retd. Major General ATM Abdul Wahab. When all the speakers were done with their dialogue, a documentary was shown based on the life of a martyr Safi Imam Rumi, giving a small glance to his story and few of the letters he wrote during the war, a moment that truly touched the deepest corner of everyone's heart. Following the documentary was a panel discussion, moderated



by Prof.Mamun Rashid and the eminent discussants were Mrs. Rokeya Sultana Raka, Mr. Nuh Alam Lenin, Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, and Ms. Sheepa Hafiza. The end to the panel discussion tagged along with it a cultural program where Shaan, Ruhi, Tasbita and Aniruddha, students from BRAC University performed patriotic songs and songs from 'Shadheen Bangla BetarKendro'. Our chief artist was Mr. Sadi Mohammed who mesmerized us with his patriotic solo performance, preceded with a duet with Ms. Zainab Farooqui Ali and a solo by Topon Bhattacharjee. The program was given a spectacular finale with our national anthem-'Amar Shonar Bangla', sung by all with downright respect. The program was organized by the students of BBS headed by Tanjim, and his team members, Trisha, Shihab, Rumman, Shimuland Tasbita under the supervision of Mr. Saif Hossain and Ms. Samina Haque, faculty members of BBS.

- **'40 Years of the Victory of Bangladesh: Economic Challenges and Prospects' -**

It has been 40 years since Bangladeshi people achieved their own free land. But did they ever have a good economy in these years of journey? - With these controversial questions, a seminar

on "40 Years of the Victory of Bangladesh: Economic Challenges and Prospects" was held on 14 December 2011 at GDLN Center, BRAC University. BRAC Business School (BBS) and Bonik Barta- the first bangla daily business newspaper in Bangladesh in association with BRAC University Heritage Forum arranged the seminar. The seminar was chaired by former advisor of caretaker government and professor of BRAC Business School Dr. Akbar Ali Khan. Chief Guest: Dr. Mirza Md. Azizul Islam, visiting faculty, BBS, Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman, Research Director- BIDS, Dr. Fahmida Khatun, Head of Research - CPD, Dr. Zahid Hussain, Senior Economist, World Bank, Prof. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University. The program started with three consecutive presentations by the students of BRAC University.



Their presentation covered agriculture, readymade garments (RMG) and stock market sectors in detail. The guests made further comments on the topic and related it with their discussions. They encouraged and invited active participation of young minds in these types of issues. The event was coordinated by Mr. Muhammad Intisar Alam, Lecturer, BBS, and Co-Advisor, BRACU Heritage Forum.

- **Quiz Competition: "FAS BIZ WARRIORS" -** On 1 December 2011, BBS in participation with Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF) organized an intra-university financial quiz competition -"FAS BIZ Warriors." The entire event was sponsored by FAS Finance and Investment Ltd, a sister concern of Nitol Group. The quiz competition focused on issues related to



finance and economics around the globe. The aim of the competition was to promote financial education amongst the future leaders of the country and create a single platform and competitive environment for many of our young talents to stand out and get a wider exposure. The competition was open for both BBS and ESS students. A total of 13 groups comprising of 3 students in each group participated in the competition. The top 2 teams which made it to the final round were El-Dorado and Hedge Fund with Hedge Fund being the winner. At the prize giving ceremony, Ms. Samina Haque, BBS faculty member and the co-coordinator of BIZ Warriors spoke few words about the whole event. The chief guest of the event, Mr. Abdul Matlub Ahmed, Chairman, Nitol Group,also shared his thoughts about such competitions. Prof. Mamun Rashid - Director BRAC Business School ended the quiz competition with a thanking note.

School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS)

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS)

The School of Engineering and Computer Science embodies BRAC University's tradition of excellence as a leader in engineering education and research. The undergraduate and graduate programs offered by this school prepare students to be well-qualified for academia and the industry, and to apply engineering principles across a wide range of disciplines. The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) operate together under this school. The EEE Department offers two undergraduate programs: Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (BSEEE) and Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communication Engineering (BSECE), and the CSE Department offers Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS) and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering (BSCSE). The School of Engineering and Computer Science has also expanded its curriculum to graduate levels by offering two graduate programs: Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Master of Engineering (M.Engg.) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. Furthermore, the school is running a training program for CISCO Certified Network Associate (CCNA) under the CISCO Networking Academy in BRAC University. Besides academic programs, the School of Engineering and Computer Science highly encourages undergraduate and graduate students to engage in research activities. Under this school, the Center for Research on Bangla Language Processing (CRBLP) was established with support from the PAN Localization Project (PanL10n) of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, and subsequent support from Microsoft Corporation. CRBLP is working on Bangla language processing, focusing on spelling and grammar checkers, search engines, optical character recognition, speech processing, machine translation, and related research areas. For its outstanding contribution to the field of Bangla language processing, CRBLP received the BASIS IT Innovation Search award during SOFTEXPO 2010, and the e-Content and ICT for Development Award 2010 sponsored by the Ministry of Science and ICT. Also in 2010, Prothom Alo, the highest circulation newspaper in Bangladesh, launched an audio version of its online newspaper for the visually impaired using Bangla text to speech software developed at CRBLP. CRBLP offers competitive internship opportunities for BRAC University undergraduates and its alumni have gone on to top graduates schools in North America, Europe and Australia.

Other noteworthy research activities are conducted by different research groups: the Network Research Group is exploring different characteristics of wireless and wired networks such as security, channel optimization, and performance enhancement. The Control Application Research Group (CARG) has initiated a research with Dhaka Power Distribution Company Ltd (DPDC) on Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to analyze and improve their system, and is also working on implementing several solar power projects, one of which has been installed in BRAC University. The Robotics Research Group started their research on robots that can follow a path using artificial intelligence and can be controlled using GSM cell phone and other controlling devices. For the last two years, this group has organized an enthralling display which not only inspired students but also captivated the attention of media. In recent years, a significant number of faculty members and students from this school have published their work in more than seventy national and international conference proceedings and journals. In January 2010, the BRAC University ACM Student Chapter was chartered by ACM (Association for Computing Machinery), making it the first ever student chapter in Bangladesh. The chapter has total 40 members at the moment and most of them received a complimentary student membership. ACM is an educational and scientific society uniting the world's computing educators, researchers and professionals to inspire dialogue, share resources and address the field's challenges.

The School of Engineering and Computer Science boasts of a dynamic student community with several student groups: BRAC University Computer Club (BUCC), BRAC University Electronics and Communication Club (BUECC), Robotics BRACU (Ro-Bu) Club. Guided by faculty members, the students of these clubs organize workshops, seminars, talent fests, programming contests, quiz contests, Olympiads, and various other activities. Students from these groups have earned many awards and recognitions locally and internationally. These achievements further drive the School of Engineering and Computer Science to continue its effort towards building a superlative academia that would contribute to not only disseminating but also creating knowledge.

Conference and Seminar

- **Workshop on "Biomedical Instrumentation and Renewable Energy" at BRAC University**

On the 23rd of May, 2011 BRAC University in collaboration with BATTCO Engineering, Bangladesh organized a workshop on "Biomedical Instrumentation and Renewable Energy". The workshop included Mr. Giorgio Guglielmino, Ambassador of Italy in Dhaka, as the chief guest; and Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University as a special guest. Other distinguished speakers included Professor Khondkar Siddique-e-Rabbani, Chairperson of department of Biomedical Physics and Technology, Dhaka University; Professor Subrata Kumar Aditya from Dhaka University; and Engr. Enrico Selva Bonino, Export area manager from DeLorenzo group. The workshop was organized by the Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) Department of BRAC University, and started with a welcome note by Dr. Sayeed Salam, Chairperson of the department of EEE, BRAC University; followed by an inauguration speech by Professor Ainun Nishat, VC of BRAC University. Then the Ambassador of Italy in Dhaka, Mr. Guglielmino addressed the audience and expressed his views about Bangladesh as a rapidly developing country and its advancement in the engineering research sectors.

Professor Khondkar Siddique-e-Rabbani presented on the various aspects of Biomedical Instrumentation, followed by another presentation by Mr. Enrico Selva Bonino who represented his company DeLorenzo group.

The 'Renewable Energy' session was conducted by Prof Subrata Kumar Aditya. He talked about various kinds of renewable energy that are in use, and presented a lecture on PV system, Hybrid Energy System and a case study on St. Martin's Island.

A concluding speech was presented by Dr. AKM Azad from the EEE department of BRAC University, who was also the chief organizer of this entire workshop. This was followed by a poster presentation on some of the work done by BRAC University students on "Biomedical Instrumentation and Renewable Energy".



- **Student presents paper at conference**



Raska Urzoshi, a member of the Control and Applications Research Group (CARG) of Electrical and Electronics Department participated and presented her paper on "Microcontroller based ECG simulator", in the 5th Kuala Lumpur International Conference on Biomedical Engineering.

The International Conference was held in the capital of Malaysia, and was organized by the Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Malaya. Around two hundred papers were published in the event. Among them fifty percent were international.

- **Student attends IEEE Congress**

The BRAC University student branch chairperson Rumman Huq attended an International Student Congress in The University of Auckland. It was a very successful event where the IEEE Bangladesh Student Branch of BU was highly appreciated.

Faculty attended in International Conference
The International Aegean Conference on Electric Machines and Power Electronics
and Electromotion Joint Conference ACEMP 2011 was held on 08-10 September
2011 in Istanbul, Turkey. Ms. Amina Hasan abedin, Senior Lecturer, EEE Department presented two papers in the conference. Ms Abedin was the only Bangladeshi who presented in the conference.

Awards/Achievements

SYNERGY Program between EEE Department BRAC University and BRAC Solar

In August 2011, the Control and Applications Research Group undertook the first synergy assignment in collaboration with BRAC Solar. For the purpose of this assignment, BRAC Solar provided CARG with fourteen solar panels from three different companies, in order to determine the performance of each panel. The power rating of these panels varied from 40W to 85W. In order to complete this project, CARG members created a testing environment in the electronics lab consisting of a sun simulator. The sun simulator is used as a light source to provide incident radiation (100,000 Lux) to excite the solar panel. After taking the data for all panels, a full scale report was submitted along with a comparative study.

Publications

- Apurba Saha, Nazmus Saquib, Md.Sabbir Rahman Sakib, and Afsana Alam, "QoS Analysis of GSM System: Performance Enhancement and Optimization", proc. IEEE ICNCC 2011, New Delhi, India, March 2011.

- M. R. Hasan, A. Rahman and A. Azad, "Feasibility and Importance of an Automatic Controller for Solar Hot Water System", Proceedings of IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC) - Technology for the Benefit of Humanity, October 30 - November 1, 2011, Seattle, Washington, USA.

- M. R. Hasan, K. Arifin, A. Rahman and A. Azad, "Design, implementation and performance of a controller for uninterruptible solar hot water system", Proceedings of IEEE 18Th International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management (IE&EM), 3-5 Sept. 2011, pages: 584 - 588, China.

- A. Moshi, S. S. Cynthia, E. Islam, R. Rahman and A. Azad, " Performance analysis of robotic arm manipulators control system under multitasking environment", Proceedings of IEEE 18Th International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management (IE&EM), 3-5 Sept. 2011, pages: 613 - 617, China.

- Andre Dominic Paul, Khandker Raska Urzoshi, Robi Shankar Datta, Adnan Arsalan and A. M. Azad, " Design and development of Microcontroller based ECG Simulator", Proceedings of the BioMed2011, the 5th Kuala Lumpur International Conference on Biomedical Engineering, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2011.

- Sadia Hamid Kazi and Raihan Ahmed, "Performance Analysis of Routing Protocols in Wireless Sensor Networks,2011 International Conference on Communication Engineering and Networks (ICCEN 2011)Hong Kong, November, 2011.

- Sadia Hamid Kazi and Niti Jabin,"A Performance Comparison of Multi-hop Wireless Ad Hoc Network Routing Protocols", 2011 International Conference on Communication Engineering and Networks (ICCEN 2011) Hong Kong, November, 2011.

- Zawad Hossain, Md. Mosaddeq Rahman, Investigation of Dye-Sensitized Nano-Crystalline TiO2 Solar Cell:Prospect, Problems and Remedies", Proceedings of International Conference on Advances in Electrical Engineerin, (ICAEE) 2011, December 19-20, 2011, Independent University, Dhaka, Bangladesh, pp 102-107.

- M. Azad, C. M. I. Hussain and M. Alam, "A Different Approach to Improve the Performance of DPDC SCADA System", Journal of Energy and Power Engineering, accepted to be appeared, David Publishing, USA.

- A. A. Moshi, S. S. Cynthia, E. Islam, R. Rahman and A.M. Azad, "Performance Analysis of Robotic Arm Manipulators Control System Under Multitasking Environment", Journal of Mechanics Engineering and Automation (JMEA). accepted to be appeared, David Publishing, USA.

- Amitabha Chakrabarty, Martin Collier, Cost Efficient Implementation of Multistage Symmetric Repackable Networks, International Journal of Grid and High Performance Computing, October - December 2011.

- Md. Mosaddequr Rahman, Sazzadur Chowdhury, "Capacitance Calculation for Square Diaphragm CMUTs Using a New Deflection Shape Function ", Journal of Sensors 2011, Article ID 581910, 2011.

Appoints/Arrivals/Departures

- Sanjida Hossain Sabah and Farzana Shabnam joined as lecturer in the EEE Department in January 2011. They passed their B.Sc in EEE in December 2010 from BRAC University.

- Shammur Absar Chowdhury joined as lecturer in the CSE Department in January 2011. Shammur completed a double major in CSE and ECE in December 2010 from BRAC University.

- Aldrin Nippon joined as lecturer in the EEE Department in May 2011. He passed his B.Sc in EEE in April 2011 from BRAC University.

- Dilruba Showkat joined as lecturer in the CSE Department in September 2011. She has finished her M.Sc in CSE from Dhaka University.

- Asif Iqbal joined as lecturer in the EEE Department in May 2011. He passed his B.Sc in EEE from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.

- Hossain Arif joined as lecturer in the CSE Department in September 2011.

- Amitabha Chakrabarty joined as Assistant Professor in the CSE Department in December 2011.

- Khadija Rasul, Fariah Mahjabeen, Sarwar Alam and Apurba Saha left for their higher studies in September 2011.

Tours/Visits/Picnics

IEEE BRACU SB Civil Aviation Tour

IEEE BRAC University Student Branch organized a technical tour for the IEEE student members on the 26th of May. The destination was Hazrat Shah Jalal International Airport's Civil Aviation Authority Complex. The students were accompanied by Marzia Alam and Supriyo Shafkat Ahmed; faculty members of BRAC University, EEE Department. This technical tour to the Civil Aviation Complex focused on informing the students about the various technicalities required during air traffic control. The students were given a tour into the restricted zones of aircraft maintenance and repair, spare parts building, radar station, control tower and more.



The students were given a demonstration of how the signal processing is done using transmitters and receivers in the radar station. This was followed by a visit to the control tower, from where the students were able to see an entire communication between the controllers from the Bangladesh Air Force and an airbus.

The tour also consisted of a visit to the Plane Hangar of Biman Bangladesh, where an airbus was entirely dismantled for maintenance and repair. The students got a demonstration and up-close look at the cockpit, and got to visit the stations where the engineers were working on other spare parts. This encouraged most of the students doing their major in electronics and power, and it gave them an insight on real life application of theory.

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES
(Department Organized)

IEEE BRAC University Student Chapter

The IEEE BRACU Student Branch has entered a new working year from 2011. The previous Executive Body consisted of Shiblee Imtiaz Hasan as the Chairperson, Eftakhairul Islam as the Vice-Chair, Rabbi as the Secretary and Adnan-al-Moshi as the Treasurer.



Shiblee introducing the new EB for 2011



The new EB (from left): Rumman, Jonayet, Oyon & Syedur at the 1st GBM for 2011 IEEE

On the 23rd of February, the first General Body Meeting (GBM) took place, conducted by both the new and old EB members. The prime focus of the GBM was to give new students an idea about IEEE and introduce the new EB. The new EB consists of Rumman Huq as the Chairperson, Jonayet Hossain as the vice-chair, Mahamudul Hasan Oyon as the secretary and Syedur Rahman Sakir as the treasurer. This new EB talked about their goals and objectives for the upcoming year, laid out plans such as visits to power generating companies, seminars by distinguished personnel, etc.

Nabila Naushin, faculty from the SECS department, ex-IEEE BU SB Member also attended the meeting, shared her insight and gave helpful suggestions and tips.

BUCC organized Top BRACU Programming Contest

On 12th March 2011, Tuesday, UB 11th floor computers were filled with students participating in the TopB BRACU Programming Contest, Spring 2011. The first prize was won by Anik Momtaz, followed by Mahbub Zaman Ananda and Md. Raduanul Islam. Among the faculty members, Sarwar Alam, Hammad Ali, Muhammad Abdur Rahman Adnan, Imran Ahmed, Md. Shamsul Kaonain Noman and Annajiat Alim Rasel were present.

BUCC arranged Seminar on Linux

On 15th March 2011, Tuesday, a seminar was held to welcome students to the exciting world of open source Linux OS (Red Hat). The seminar intended to provide a guideline in networking and overall idea of system configuration. This seminar gives the students exposure to and opportunity to become a System Administrator and to take challenges in job market. Students were shown how to install and configure Linux Operating System. Supplementary materials for further study were handed out. The seminar was organized in collaboration with Triangle Services Ltd.



BRACU CHONDROBOT at NASA

NASA had organized Second Annual Lunabotics Mining Competition on May 23-28, 2011. It was a university-level competition designed to engage and retain students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Initially 72 teams applied and around 48 teams from five countries participated for the



Chondrobot with the inspiration of BRAC family.

2011 competition. BRAC University team attended the competition for the first time from Bangladesh. The team members were Shiblee Imtiaz Hasan, Mohammad Jonayet Hossain, Kazi Mohammad Razin, Mahmudul Hasan Oyon and Md. Asifur Rahman, from the School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS). Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman, Dr. Mohammed Belal Hossain Bhuian and Dr. Md. Mosaddeque Rahman were the faculty advisors of this team. Eftakhar Karim Rahat, Imran Bin Jafar and Nirjhor Tahmidur Rouf were the volunteer participant of this project. BRAC University team named their robot as "BRACU_CHONDROBOT".

IEEE Day Celebration

On 8th of October the IEEE BRAC University Student Branch (BRACU SB) members decided to celebrate the IEEE day with both formal and informal festivities. Followed by a fun-filled quiz competition, the event started with a short speech delivered by the chairperson of the branch, Rumman Huq. The quiz competition consisted of 4 teams of two members each. The



winner and runner-up teams were awarded by the chairperson. Later all the members took part in a photo session wearing the black IEEE t-shirt with

blue writings in it. Besides the quiz competition, another attraction of the celebration was the three kilograms blue colored black forest cake which grabbed the attention of almost all the students present there. Surrounded by a bunch of active IEEE members, the cake announced the glory and magnificence of IEEE as this international organization stepped into 127 years.

IEEE Certificate Awarding Dinner

On the 27th October, 2011 the IEEE Bangladesh Section organized the 'Certificate Awarding Ceremony' in the Central Cafeteria of BUET. Professor Dr. S.M Nazrul Islam (VC of BUET) was the Chief Guest of this occasion. The event consisted of lectures by distinguished IEEE members and BUET faculty, followed by the certificate presentation to active members for their achievements, dinner and raffle draw.





BUCC Organized Intra-University Gaming Contest

On 19th of November, BUCC hosted an Intra-University Gaming Contest. Four popular games named Fifa 2011, NFS Most Wanted, Medal of



Honor Allied Assault (MOHAA) and Defense of the Ancients (DotA) were offered in the gaming contest. The daylong event took place in the computer labs on the 11th floor of the university building. Saikat Lawrence Rozario (10101017) and Md. Rezwanul Haque (09201016) earned the titles in Fifa 2011 and NFS Most Wanted. Groups led by Ashfaque Ali and Imran Ahmed turned out champions in the team games MOHAA and DotA correspondingly. Some faculty members were present throughout the day to assist the BUCC members.

BUCC Members Participate in ACM ICPC 2011 Dhaka Site

On 19th of November, another part of BUCC went to the International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) held at North South University (NSU). Four teams from BRAC University consisting of three members each competed with almost 200 other teams from all over the Asia Pacific region and from numerous universities of Bangladesh. All of the students who participated in ICPC from BRAC University were students of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering. Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali and M. Abdur Rahman Adnan were present as team coaches, supporting the teams throughout. Each team of BRAC University solved two problems. Four among twelve contestants were executive members of BRAC University Computer Club (BUCC).

Prize Giving Ceremony of BUCC Intra-University Gaming Contest

Prizes were distributed to the winners and runners up of Intra University Gaming Contest-all 2011 on November 23rd. The event started at 5:30pm and continued till 6:30pm. Following faculty members of SECS were present during the award ceremony: Md Shamsul Kaonain, Dr Mohammed Belal Hossain Bhuian, Amina Hasan Abedin, Supriyo Shafkat Ahmed, Sanjida Hossain Sabah, and Aldrin Nippon Boby.

BUCC Organizes MSDNAA Installation fiesta

Microsoft Student Partners (MSPs) are students chosen by Microsoft to lead the technology discussion on their respective campuses. MSPs of BRAC University arranged a week long Software Installation Festival from 20th to 24th of November, for the BRAC University students, in collaboration with Microsoft Bangladesh. In this festival, MSDNAA (Microsoft Developer Network Academic Alliance) accounts were provided to the students, through which they



will be able to get original Microsoft software for free. MSP's and other BUCC members were present during the entire week, assisting both faculty members and students with the registration and the installation process. The entire fiesta took place in collaboration with the BRAC University Computer Club (BUCC).

BUCC organized Seminar on Study Abroad



BUCC organized a seminar on Studying Abroad on 4th October 2011, Tuesday. GDLN conference center at UB 18th floor was crowded with students who aim to pursue higher education and would like to get a head start on their careers. The presenters explained that many students want to go abroad for a degree from a reputed university. Before that they need some



preparation and a clear concept on how they could study abroad. The Lead speaker was Md. Mamunur Rashid, currently working for European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Geneva, Switzerland. He moved to UK in 2003 from BRACU. He is about to finish his PhD. He was joined by Md. Fazle Munim Sayket, currently studying at Orebro University, Sweden concentrating on E-Government. S. Mahbub -Uz- Zaman Ananda received the speakers. Mafruzul Murshed Bhuiyan Shajib and Tasmia Tabassum along with other EB members coordinated the event. Md. Shamsul Kaonain Noman, faculty member of SECS was present during the event.

BUCC organized TopBU October 2011 Programming Contest

On 15th October 2011, Saturday, UB 11th floor was populated with students taking part in the Top BRACU Programming Contest for Fall 2011. Sadat Sakif Ahmed, 09301005 snatched the first prize by solving 4 problems, followed by 1st Runners-up Radin Ahmed Ehsan, 09301010 who solved 3 problems and then 2nd Runners-up Tanjina Islam, 09301018 by solving



2 problems. Along with many other organizers, Syeed Chowdhury Shaashwato, 09201014 coordinated the event and Hall of Fame posters were designed by Onishim Hasdak, 09201003 and Fahim Al Hasnaeen, 09201004. The event was made possible by weeks long after-hours active involvement of faculty members of SECS namely, Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali, Md. Abdur Rahman Adnan, and Md. Shamsul Kaonain Noman.

BUCC arranges Talk on Wireless Networking

On 18th October 2011, Computer Club (BUCC) organized a Talk on Wireless Networking. The speaker was Adnan Quadri, Network Consultant, Amadeyr Cloud Ltd, Dhaka. The highly informative talk included topics on Wireless Mesh Network, Amadeyr Cloud: Next Generation Wireless Communication for Rural Development in Gazipur, relevant academic publication, Smart Grid Information Network and EnergyCard: Social Networking for a Green Growth. Among the SECS faculty members, Ms Farzana Shabnam and Muhammad Abdur Rahman Adnan were present.

BUCC members participate in ESAB Seminar on Android Platform



On 25th October 2011, BUCC members participated in a Seminar on ANDROID Platform. The event was organized by newly formed Engineering Student Association Of Bangladesh (ESAB) at Bangladesh-Korea Information Access Centre (IAC) Seminar Room, New Academic Building, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology Dhaka, Bangladesh. Engineering Students Association of Bangladesh is a Government registered volunteer organization working for the welfare of the students of engineering universities. Md. Shamsul Kaonain Noman, co-Advisor and faculty member of SECS accompanied the students.

BUCC members volunteer in eAsia 2011 Dhaka



In December 2011, members of BRAC University Computer Club (BUCC) managed to take part in a high profile conference on info-tech titled eAsia 2011, held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC), Dhaka during 1-3 December, 2011. This was the 5th annual eAsia conference and exhibition supported by the Access to Information (A2I) Program, Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh, Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS), Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS), Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB), Association of Mobile Telecommunication Operators of Bangladesh (AMTOB) and Bangladesh Association of Call Centre & Outsourcing (BACCO). The conference consisted of two plenary sessions and around 30 focused workshops, debates and seminars. A large number of foreign delegates and international IT experts from at least 10 countries were present.

BRAC University and BRAC were the knowledge partners for this event. Department of Computer Science BRAC University and BRAC were the knowledge partners for this event. Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) with the assistance of the Department of English and Humanities (ENH) of BRAC University successfully executed the assigned task. More than seventy volunteers and nine executive members of BUCC were guided by faculty members Mr. Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali, Mr. Annajiat Alim Rasel, Mr. Md. Shamsul Kaonain, Mr. Abdur Rahman Adnan of

the Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) along with Ms. Mushira Habib of Department of English and Humanities. Dr. Mumit Khan, Chairperson of CSE department of BRAC University was present on all the three days to supervise the proceedings.

The volunteers were separated into a survey team and a rapporteur team. The survey team was in charge of asking the visitors different questions. Some members of the survey team were handed tablet PCs, others had different sets of questionnaires. They served all day at the survey booth and helped visitors by providing information as well as guiding them to their desired events. The duty of the rapporteur team was to cover seminars or technical sessions and workshops to make a full session report and summary. Besides these assigned tasks, the knowledge team helped the event organizing team at the BICC countless times, and played an important role when Professor Muhammed Zafar Iqbal, Departmental Head of CSE in SUST, and John Davies, Vice President and General Manager of Intel World Ahead Program came to a plenary session on the final day. Joining this international occasion highlighted BRAC University both nationally and globally. It allowed students to gain management skills and volunteering experience, and avail the unique opportunity where they could hear and meet the policymakers, practitioners, industry leaders and academicians of Asia-Pacific and western nations. Organizing Secretary of eAsia 2011 Munir Hasan thanked BUCC and BRAC University for being a part of the occasion, and making the event successful.

School of Law

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

School of Law

The School of Law at BRAC University was founded in 2004. It is a gateway through which students are prepared for careers in law, in administrative services, the judiciary and in the development sector. The four-year undergraduate programme at the School of Law culminates into a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree for successful students. Although the primary emphasis of the programme is on Law and the legal profession, given that Law is also intertwined with economics, development, business and sociology, it also prepares students who are inclined to seek professions in other disciplines.

The faculty of the School of Law are handpicked for their academic excellence and individual expertise. They bring with them teaching-learning experiences from Universities in the United Kingdom, Australia, Russia, the United States of America and Bangladesh. The faculty has individual expertise in the areas of child rights, criminal law, consumer laws, gender studies, business laws, economics, international laws and human rights; all which are shared with the students in course work and in workshops and lecture programmes organised by the School. In 2010, eminent persons such as Mr. Muhammad Zamir, Chief Information Commissioner; Gabrielle Derighetti, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Switzerland; and Mr. Abbas Faiz, Senior Researcher for South Asia, Amnesty International, have given lectures as guests of the School of Law.



The School of Law is also noteworthy in the fact that it has both a Law Club (with Dr. Saira Rahman Khan as its adviser) and a Moot Court Society (with Dr. Tureen Afroz as its adviser), where students are constantly engaged in preparing for moot court competitions, writing research papers and articles for the Law Club newsletter 'Acumen' and planning lecture programmes and social awareness activities. The mooters have been successful in several national and international competitions, including the prestigious ICRC Henry Dunant Moot Court Competitions. They are a force to be reckoned with in the national arena. In November 2010, the Moot Court Society published an easy-reading version of the Constitution of the People' Republic of Bangladesh - called 'Amader Shongbidhan'. Throughout 2010, the monthly BU Law Club newsletter 'Acumen' has grown to become an interesting and informative fixture within the whole of BRAC University, as it is distributed to all departments for information dissemination.

Recognising BRAC's background and the goals and commitments of BRAC University, the School of Law endeavours to impart legal education to seek legal solutions that respect social, cultural and aesthetic needs of the people. To meet this goal, it strives to impart to its students not only the tenets of the law, but also legal philosophy, rights-based issues and a broader awareness of the society they live in. Graduates from the School of Law are now pursuing careers as lawyers, judges, corporate legal officers, development workers and academics.

In 2004, the School of Law started its journey with six students. In the year 2011, a total of 65 students, spread out in the three semesters, were admitted to the School, the largest intake being the 33 students in the Spring 2011 semester. To date, there are over 200 students studying Law at BRAC University.

The following paragraphs give a brief description of the activities of the faculty members and the students of the School of Law, BRAC University, for 2011.

Lectures:

- Prof. K. Shamsuddin Mahmood, Head of Undergraduate Programme, has given lectures on law of Contract, Bankruptcy and Property law, Business Law, as a regular resource person in various training institutes of banks, including Bangladesh Association of Bankers, Standard Bank Training Institute, Dhaka Bank Training Institute, etc.

Conference/ Seminar/Talk/ Workshop (Chaired or presented paper) :

Dr. Saira Rahman Khan :

- Moderated the session on 'Women Workers and Human Rights' at the European Union conference on Human Rights and Decent Work, held on 23 - 24 November 2011 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

- Presented a paper on 'The need to Criminalise Torture in Bangladesh' at a legal experts consultation meeting on 'Torture', organised by the Asian Legal Resource Centre and 'Redress', in Hong Kong, from 23 - 25 September 2011.

- Presented a paper on 'Human Rights Defenders in Bangladesh and the Freedom of Expression' and moderated the session on 'Challenges faced by Human Rights Defenders in Southeast and South Asia', at the Regional Symposium on the Criminalisation of the Freedom of Opinion and Expression, organised by the Alliance of Independent Journalists, Indonesia and the Asian Forum for Human Rights, on 15 - 16 July 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Also made a presentation to Mr. Frank La Rue, the Special Rapporteur on the Freedomof Opinion and Expression at the meeting.

Dr. Tureen Afroz:

- Presented a paper on 'Trial of War Criminals: The Challenges Ahead', paper presented at the Training Program of the Investigators and the Prosecutors of the International Crimes Tribunal, Dhaka organized by ICTBD on 29 January 2011 in Dhaka.

- Presented a paper on 'Budgetary Allocation for Law and Justice: Issues and Trend III', paper presented at the Seminar on 'Budgetary Allocation for Law and Justice: Issues and Trends', organized by BILIA on 17 May 2011, CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka

- Presented a paper on 'Provision on Second Hand Smoking in the Draft Anti-Tobacco (Amendment) Legislation of Bangladesh', paper presented at the Seminar on 'Drafting Anti-Tobacco Law', organized by International Legal Consortium in Washington DC in June 2011.

- Presented a paper on 'Prohibition on Tobacco Advertising and Promotion in the Draft Anti-Tobacco (Amendment) Legislation of Bangladesh', paper presented at the Seminar on 'Drafting Anti-Tobacco Law', organized by International Legal Consortium in Washington DC in December 2011.

Ms. Taslima Yasmin:

- Presented a paper on "The Vagrancy Act of 2011: Rehabilitation or Criminalisation?" at the roundtable discussion on "Protection of Beggars' Rights to Life and to Liberty" organized jointly by Action on Disability and Development (ADD), Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), and BRAC Human Rights and Legal Services (BRAC-HRLS). The Seminar took place on 27 January 2011 at CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka.

- Presented a paper on "Concerns regarding the Vagrants and Shelterless Persons (Rehabilitation) Act 2011" at the Seminar organised by Action on Disability and Development (ADD), Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), BRAC Human Rights and Legal Services (BRAC-HRLS) and Nijera Kori. The Seminar took place on 17th September 2011 at Reporters Unity, Dhaka.

Ms. Mahua Zahur:

- Presented a paper titled "Politics, Policies, Constitutional Scheme and Laws of Bangladesh in Respect to the Participation of Women in the Governance" at the South Asian Regional Conference on 'Promoting Gender Responsive Democratic Governance in South Asia' held in Kathmandu June 28-30, 2011 organized by South Asian Partnership International.

Research and Publications

Prof. K. Shamsuddin Mahmood

- Preparing for publication a book entitled Legal Environment of Business in Bangladesh.

Dr. Md. Rizwanul Islam:

- Book: Md. Rizwanul Islam, Economic Integration in South Asia: Charting a Legal Roadmap (Martinus Nijhoff: Leiden; Boston, 2012).

- Refereed Journal Article Niloufer Selvadurai and Md. Rizwanul Islam, 'The Application of the Law of Criminal Defamation to Inflammatory Comments Made on Social Networking Sites: A New Role for an Old law?' (2012) 36(1) Criminal Law Journal 38-49.

Other

In 2011, Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Dr. Tureen Afroz, Dr. Saira Rahman Khan, Dr. Rizwanul Islam and Ms. Taslima Yasmin have all published columns on various legal issues in the Bangla and English language daily newspapers, including the Dainik Prothom Alo, The Daily Star and the New Age.

Contribution to the University and the Department:

Prof. Shamsuddin Mahmood is the Head, Undergraduate Programme. He advises the faculty members on academic issues and also teaches courses on Business Law and Industrial Relations at BRAC Business School. Prof Mahmood is also the Law Advisor, BRAC University.

Dr. Saira Rahman Khan is the Adviser for the BU Law Club, and as such, meets with the key members of the Club to discuss and plan programmes and activities that will enhance the awareness raising, knowledge and organizational and social skills of the students. At the School of Law, Dr. Khan is also responsible for coordinating the advising of students; creating a list of advisers; semester-wise course selections; fresher orientation; and compiling and disseminating information to students regarding the study of law and course selections for a smooth four undergraduate years.

As the Adviser of the Moot Court Society, **Dr. Tureen Afroz** has taken up a programme "Abar Ekattur" where she and the members of the MCS tour the districts and organize lectures, talks and other programmes with the college and university youth about the history, essence and underlying messages of the 1971 War for Liberation. She also coached the Moot team for the 07th Henry Dunnant National Moot Court Competition, where the BU team won the runners up position.

Ms. Taslima Tasmin is the project coordinator of, "Synergy between BRAC HRLS and BRAC University School of Law". Under the initial phase of the project a team of law students and faculty members visited three BRAC HRLS Components in three districts - Srimongol, Comilla and Tangail in 2011. In this program the students participated in the legal service providing sessions of BRAC HRLS.

Activities of Department Clubs

A. Activities of the BU Law Club

The BU Law Club was founded in Fall 2009. Its adviser is Dr. Saira Rahman Khan, Associate Professor, School of Law. The BU Law Club was found on the basis that everyone should be aware of the law and their rights and that students of Law should also be social activists. BU Law Club members have volunteered in human rights organisations, taken part in awareness-raising initiatives and carry out research for short reports in the awareness-raising news letter 'Acumen', which is published every month and distributed throughout the University. Activities such as school visits on the issue of 'rights' and 'child rights', lecture programmes and local level informal discussions not only fulfill the objectives of the BU Law Club, but also encourages the members to learn how to utilize their knowledge of law; expand their knowledge base and hone their oratory, organisation and research skills.

The following activities were carried out by the BU Law Club in 2011:

- BU Law Club published 12 issues of their monthly Newsletter, "Acumen". With the aim of creating awareness and generating an interest in social and legal issues among the students of BRAC University, the members of the BU Law Club took up this task as a duty.

- In the first week of January 2011, the BULC organised a winter clothes drive and collected winter clothes from students and bought

blankets for the poor living in the Beri Bandh area. Members of the Law Club went to personally distribute the items to the most needy - mainly the elders and young children.



Winter Clothes Drive.

- On 15 March 2011 the BULC hosted a Lecture Programme on "Fair Trial" by Mr. Abbas Faiz, the senior researcher for South Asia of the London-based Amnesty International.

- On 16 March 2011 the Club hosted a Dialogue Exchange Session with 18 students of Duman High School, Singapore, who were in Bangladesh to do some volunteer work in village schools.

- On 24 March 2011 the Law Club organised its annual field trip to the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. They were accompanied by Mr., Tahsin Iqbal, teaching assistant and Advocate Towhidul Islam, course contract faculty.

- In June 2011 members of the BULC participated in the IFAD GROUP BRAC University Football League as the team "Devil's Advocates" and reached Quarterfinal.

- In September 2011, the Honourable Justice Naima Haider was hosted by the BULC and the School of Law at a lecture on what qualities are required to be a good Law student and a good lawyer.

- On 12 October 2011, the Law Club celebrated its second anniversary by the cutting of a huge cake in the Law School. Present among the students were the faculty members.

- A Study Tour was organized by BU Law Club at Munshiganj District Judge Court, Munshiganj on 17 November. The Study Tour is a practical experience for law students to understand court room proceedings and the ways of the Court and the lawyers. This practical learning experience is enhancing their theoretical Studies. The Law Club plans to rganize such a study tour every year, for students completing a certain amount of credits and courses.



Outside Munshiganj District Court

- On 21 November 2011, the BULC hosted Attorney Troy Anderson as he gave a lecture on human rights and his activities in the slum areas of Bangkok and the district of Khulna. He is setting up an NGO called 'Speak Up!' and is interested in recruiting School of Law students as volunteers.



Troy Anderson speaks to the School of Law students

- Senior members of the BULC accompanied by their Advisor, Dr. Saira Rahman Khan, gave a two hour talk on "The Constitution and your rights as citizens of Bangladesh" to the students of classes 8 to 12 of Sir John Wilson School. The School has decided to hold this talk every

December to the students of class 8, who are beginning their 'Bangladesh Studies' course.



School Programme at Sir John Wilson School

B. Activities of Moot Court Society

- In 2011 MCS-BU proved its consistency very effectively by becoming runners-up again in the 7th National Henry Dunant Moot Competition. The team members were, Khandokar Tasnuva Haq, Sabera Sultana and Tanzila Huq.



Champions and Runners up of the Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition

- MCS-BU organized "Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition" where 15 teams from 13 public and private universities participated successfully. Moreover, MCS-BU's team comprising of Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat and Munira Nazmi Jahan became champion and S. M. Hasib Mahmud and Shubrata Ghosh became 1st Runner-Up. Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat got the award of "Advocate of the year".



- The work which MCS-BU states as their national movement is the program, 'Abar 71'. To create awareness and enlighten the youth of our country about our roots, the advisor of MCS-BU Dr. Tureen Afroz along with 10 students, Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat, Muhsina Farhat Chowdhury, Monira Nazmi Jahan,Sabera Sultana, Khandokar Tasnuva Haq, Atikul Islam, A.K.M.Zakir Hossain Mondol, Md. Ishtiaq Ahmed, Shuvroto Ghosh and Miftaul Alam, incorporated a 3 month long program 'Abar 71'. Divisional Camps were set up in Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Chittagong and Dhaka. Universities from all around the country were invited to send their best and most spontaneous students to participate in these camps. The response was enormous, thus 46 universities participated in the camps. After all the camps were fruitfully implemented the Nation Convention took place. The goals of the camps were intended to create awareness and to sow patriotism into the heart of today's youth. From this program it was made clear that MCS-BU expects that our future leaders i.e. our present youth would solve our national, social, economical and political glitches with intelligence and integrity.

- MCS-BU arranged a study tour based on issues of access to justice of indigenous people of Rangamati for 19 students and their advisor, Dr. Tureen Afroz. On this 4 day tour the students visited the Joint District and Session Judge Court and the Chief Judicial Magistrate Court. In these courts they observed the proceedings. These proceedings revealed certain facts which were quite unknown for most people. The facts depicted that the majority of the result of each case proceeding depended mainly on the discretion of the Judges, because laws like CPC, CrPC, the Evidence Act, Family laws were inapplicable in that area. Also all disputes and allegations that arise from them are resolved within the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regulation of 1900, only.

JAMES P. GRANT SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH (JPGSPH)

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

JAMES P. GRANT SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH (JPGSPH)

The School's name honors the late James P Grant, former Executive Director of UNICEF, whose relentless pursuit of a global revolution in child survival in the 1980's is a legacy we aim to promote for global health for the 21st century. The School was founded in 2004 as a collaborative effort between BRAC University, BRAC and icddr,b. These three institutions offer dynamic and diverse learning laboratories for the School's education, research and leadership programs.

EDUCATION

MASTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)

Sixth Graduate Forum

JPGSPH initiated its flagship Master of Public Health (MPH) program in 2005, with the aim of developing public health leaders locally and globally. Over the years, the program has developed a high quality and widely reputed Masters in Public Health Program that hosts a wide diversity of students from different professional and disciplinary backgrounds as well as different nationalities. Since its inception, 258 students have already been graduated (including 31 students from George Washington University), representing 21 countries in South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, Australia, North and South Americas, and Europe.

The sixth batch of students completed their MPH program with graduation forum held at Sasakawa Auditorium on January 23, 2011. The scene was jubilant with the MPH graduates in colorful traditional attire along with their families, teachers and mentors. Dr. James M. Sherry, Chair, Department of Global Health, School of Public Health & Health Services, George Washington University, stimulated the audience with his valedictorian speech where he reflected on the qualities of leadership exemplified by James P. Grant with whom he worked at UNICEF in the 1980s.

Dr. Timothy Grant Evans, Dean, JPGSPH congratulated the students on reaching the end of their MPH program and handed out the certificates. Honorable Vice Chancellor, Professor Ainun Nishat, BRAC University, handed out the awards to the MPH graduates as listed below:

Award Recipients	Recipient
Allen Rosenfield Award for Best Overall Performance	Morseda Chowdhury
Sir Fazle Hasan Abed Award for Leadership	Farhana Sharmin
WB Greenough III Award for Best Dissertation	Bulage Patience & Sharmin Akhter Zahan
Richard Cash Award for Best Poster	Sultana Yeasmin & Mohammad Didar Hossain

Additionally, for the first time, faculty members serving for five years were recognized for their steadfast contribution and commitment to the School and to the students.

AWARDS
Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain Teaching Excellence Award **Recipient** Dr. Kazi Mizanur Rahman
Five Years Contribution to the School **Recipients** Alejandro Cravioto, Syed Masud Ahmed, Faruque Ahmed, Kaosar Afsana, Stephen P. Luby, Abbas U. Bhuiyan, Bilqis Amin Hoque, Alayne Adams, Tahmeed Ahmed, Shams El Arifeen, Kazi Minzanur Rahman, Richard Cash, Jon Rohde, Cole P. Dodge, Zarina Nahar Kabir, Anwar Islam and Malabika Sarker.

Two students, Min Raj Gyawali and Jesmin Pervin , were selected to speak about their experiences in Bangladesh and in the MPH program on behalf of the student body. Dr. Sabina F Rashid, Professor & MPH Coordinator, provided a brief overview of the expectations of the MPH dissertations and introduced the two students whose theses were selected to be presented to the audience. The forum was concluded by Professor Nishat congratulating the student body and wishing them good fortune. The forum was followed by a MPH final thesis poster presentation, where the graduates shared their experiences with families, friends and faculty, and potential students.

Knowledge Fair 2011

JPGSPH annual Knowledge Fair for the 7th batch of MPH students, academic year 2011-12 was held on August 11, 2011 at Sasakawa Auditorium, icddr,b. The purpose of the fair is to acquaint students with public health problems, challenges and innovations and introduce them to potential experts who can provide mentoring support during their two-month long independent field study culminating in their graduate thesis.



The Vice Chancellor Professor Nishat attended as the chief guest and the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Samdani Fakir attended as the special guest. The Dean, Dr. Timothy Evans JPGSPH chaired the function. Dr Evans and the special guest, Professor Fakir, addressed the audience. Dr. Sabina Rashid, Professor and MPH Coordinator provided a brief overview on aims of the Knowledge Fair. A total of 25 potential thesis supervisors from different academic and professional backgrounds attended the program with the students. The fair ended with a speech from the Vice Chancellor who offered advice to the students on writing their theses.

INTERNS

Every year JPGSPH hosts interns from the Graduate School of International Health Development, Nagasaki University, for about three weeks. This is the fourth year that they visited the School. The visit dates were from the 3rd of September to 24th September. During the three week period, they visited intervention sites of BRAC, icddr,b, NGOs and some government facilities and concluded with a presentation.



CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM/ SHORT COURSES

JPGSPH in collaboration with icddr, b, Teaching Training Unit, and its development partners has offered numerous short courses on from JPGSPH, BRAC, icddr,b, the National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM), the National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT), Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP), UNICEF, World Bank, WHO, GIZ, and other institutes of research and/or higher learning internationally.

Some of the short course topics include: Health Equity, Health Systems Research and Development, Health Care Financing, Quality Management in Health Systems, Monitoring and Evaluation of Maternal and Neonatal Health Programs, Research Methodologies, Program Evaluation, and hospital management and management for NGO workers on HIV prevention and TB control. In May 2009, JPGSPH initiated a pioneering seven week Executive Certificate in Public Health Management (ECPHM) to further enhance

themanagement and leadership skills of rural doctors working at the Upazila level. A further ECPHM course was held in 2011 bringing the total number of persons trained to over 100 since 2007.

ACADEMIC STUDY GROUP (ASG)

Global Public Health: The ASG organized a session Global Health on January 26, 2011. This is a part of ASG's latest initiative to develop virtual linkage between the Harvard School of Public Health and JPGSPH on different issues of Global Health.

Nuzhat Chowdhury, Research Associate, attended a short course on Mixed Methods research during June-July at the University of Heidelberg. As part of the continued effort at JPGSPH of conveying intellectual information, Ms Chowdhury made a presentation on the very topic at the ASG on August 1, 2011. Her presentation included mixed methods research design, epistemology, typology, sampling, reliability & validity, etc.

On August 24, 2011, Wit Wichaidit, a research assistant at the Epidemiology Unit of Prince of Songkla University in southern Thailand presented on R Software with a demonstration using a readily available dataset from the food outbreak in Oswego, New York, in 1940.



Dr Nasima Selim, Lecturer 11, presented a talk on Vipassana Meditation titled, 'Body, Mind and Self Care: Ethnographic 'Evidence' on Vipassana Meditation' based on her master's thesis at the ASG on September 28, 2011.

HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR SERIES (HDS)

Mr. Carel de Rooy, Country Representative of UNICEF in Bangladesh, provided a lecture on 'Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS): Methods and Results' to the MPH students on June 20, 2011 at the Savar CDM campus. He talked about how MICS was introduced in Bangladesh and how it compares to the Demographic Health Survey (DHS). Dr. Evans and other faculty members were present in the seminar.



Dr. Muhammod Abdus Sabur, Team Leader of the Program Support Office (PSO) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, presented on 'Human Resources in Bangladesh Health Sector' on June 20, 2011. Dr. Sabur talked about the complexity of Bangladesh health sector and the challenges faced in Human Resources.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR HIV/AIDS

JPGSPH along with partner organizations has been implementing the capacity building package 913 entitled 'Building and strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of government, NGOs and implementing partners' with the support of GFATM from 2008. In the



second year of Rolling Continuation Channel (RCC) phase of Global Fund supported capacity building project a full agenda of workshops and short courses were to strengthen the capacity of NGOs as critical dimension of HIV prevention. Topics included: BCC guidelines for sex works and sex worker interventions (SWI) and other

for injecting drug user interventions (IDUI);management, monitoring and evaluation: 'Standard Operating Procedures" (SOP) for services to people living with HICV & AIDs. Three members of the JPGSPH participated in a seminar titled "Youth on HIV and AIDS' organized by the Department of Pharmacy, BRAC University on World Aids Day 2011. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting was held on December 26, 2011 at the BRAC Centre Inn. A national dissemination seminar on the capacity building project titled "Building and Strengthening the Technical and Institutional Capacities of the government, NGOs and Implementing Partners" was held at the Sasakawa Auditorium of icddr,b on 29 December 2011.

MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

In line with the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's announcement to create 3000 midwives by 2015 at the 65th General Assembly at the UN in order to attain Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5, stakeholders from the public and private sectors have developed a strategy to scale up the midwifery workforce in Bangladesh under the leadership of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. JPGSPH wrote the strategy with the Ministry and also co-hosted the workshop at BRAC Inn. The strategy paper entitled Three thousand midwives by 2015: a strategy to scale-up the midwifery workforce in Bangladesh was presented for discussion at a two day workshop on the 6th and 7th of May 2011. The workshop was attended by high level Ministry officials from MOH&FW with 100 other interested stakeholders.

RESEARCH

CENTRE FOR GENDER, SEXUALITY AND HIV/AIDS

Sexuality Rights Coalition

The Centre is an active participant of the Sexuality and Rights Coalition. The coalition is a forum of 10-15 independent activists from diverse backgrounds, working together to push the SR agenda in Bangladesh. Ongoing activities include engaging college students in discussions about sexuality rights, and putting together an anthology of anonymous letters from LGBTI individuals in Bangladesh about their experiences.

Lectures on Reproductive Health and Rights for BRAC U Undergraduate Students

Every semester, the Centre organizes one day of lectures on health and well being, including sexual health and rights, with undergraduate students at BRAC University. So far, the lectures have been attended by more than 1500 undergraduate students. The Centre, as part of the Sexuality Rights Coalition, plans to extend these discussions to other universities and high schools in Bangladesh.

Barriers to Adequate and Equitable Access in the Provision of Menstrual Regulation Services in Bangladesh: A Qualitative Study (2010-2011)(In partnership with the Guttmacher Institute and BAPSA) funded by UNFPA

JPGSPH led this qualitative study to examine the complex barriers impeding women's access to safe pregnancy termination services, which contributes to the high number of unsafe abortions and related health complications in Bangladesh. The study conducted in-depth interviews with women seeking Menstrual Regulation (MR) services, women suffering from post abortion complications and healthcare providers at government and non-government facilities in urban and rural areas of Bangladesh.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (CoE) UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Inauguration of CoE Universal Health Coverage

The School through the creation of the CoE UHC aims to generate essential evidence, train appropriately skilled workers, and foster learning through knowledge sharing. The Centre will, also, act as a co-secretariat for the Global Task Force on Universal Health Coverage ensuring strong Southern leadership and facilitating communication and exchange of knowledge between the work in Bangladesh and efforts towards universal health coverage regionally and globally. The Centre has been established with generous support from the Rockefeller Foundation.





Ms. Judith Rodin, President, Rockefeller Foundation was the Guest of Honour at the inauguration ceremony on April 7, 2011. Other speakers included Mr. Prasanta Bhushan Barua, Joint Chief, Health Economics Unit, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; Mr. Mridul Chowdhury, CEO, Click Diagnostics; Dr. Abbas Bhuiya, Deputy Executive Director, icddr,b; Professor Fakir, BRAC University, and Dr. Evans, and Mr. Ishfaq Illahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC Universtiy.

BANGLADESH HEALTH WATCH

BHW is a civil society initiative housed at the School. As the movement intensifies for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in other parts of the world, there is an imperative to prepare for it in Bangladesh. The key challenges to financing for universal coverage in Bangladesh are the high and potentially impoverishing out-of-pocket (OOP) spending on health; a large and poor informal sector that is vulnerable to the high cost of access to care; a large and mostly unregulated private sector that dominates provision of care; and the increasing burden of non-communicable diseases requiring high-cost individual care. The Bangladesh Health Watch



Report 2011 attempted to assess the situation in critical elements of health financing, interpret them in light of the key elements of governance, and identify actionable points for the policy makers. The report is an important and significant anti-poverty measure for which the country is pledge-bound and attempts to identify different interventions / activities than can be planned and/or implemented in preparing Bangladesh to achieve equitable universal health coverage.

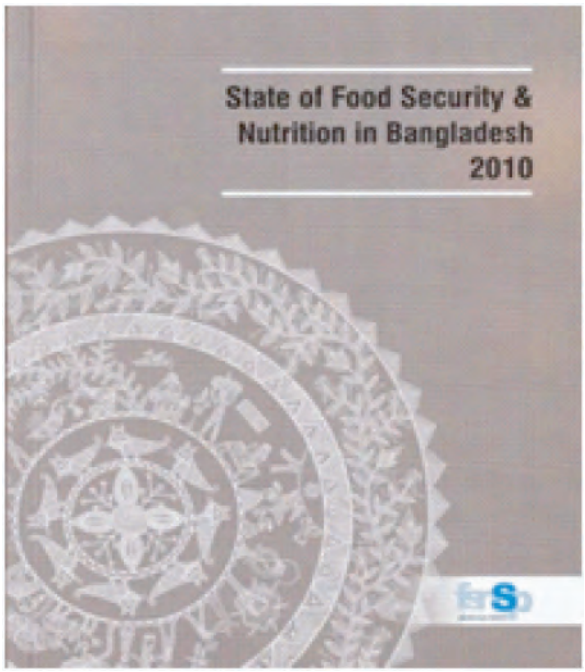
PAY FOR PERFORMANCE (P4P)



P4P currently phase 2 of the intervention in assessing the quality of public MNCH services in intervention areas completed a set of quality assurance visits to four public health facilities (Jamalpur District Hospital, Islampur Upazila Health Complex, Bakhsiganj Upazila Health Complex and Melandha Upazila Health Complex) of Jamalpur district under undertakenduring the period January 7-13, 2011. Four further Performance Assessments were undertaken at the second Performance Assessment activities at four public facilities (Islampur UHC, Bakshigang UHC, Melandah UHC and Jamalpur District Hospital) of Jamalpur district in April 2011.

FOOD SECURITY NUTRITIONAL SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM (FSNSP)

JPGSPH in partnership with Helen Keller International-Bangladesh (HKI) and in association with Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), Ministry of Planning of Bangladesh is implementing the Food Security Nutritional Surveillance Project (FSNSP) with financing from the European Union. The FSNSP monitors the food security, nutrition and health status of children and women in Bangladesh and promotes the use of this information for policy and program development and advocacy at the national and sub-national levels.



The FSNSP organized its first stakeholders meeting on December 13, 2011 at Radisson Hotel with the launch of its Annual Report "State of Food Security and Nutrition in Bangladesh: 2010". This is a compilation of findings from the first three rounds of surveillance. The meeting was graced by the Honorable Minister, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Mr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque as the chief guest.

"MOVE-IT Workshop"

Together with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Planning, the JPGSPH organized a two day (16-17th April 2011) workshop entitled "MOVE-IT Bangladesh - Accelerating Universal Registration of Mother and their Children" which was sponsored by the Health Metrics Network. It was intended to bring all of the key stakeholders together in Bangladesh to discuss the MOVE-IT Bangladesh project with the objective of informing the further development and implementation of the project.



FACULTY NEWS:

Dr. Timothy Evans, Dean:

1. He was the opening speaker at the World Bank Seminar on Microinsurance for Health held on January 12, 2011 at Westin Hotel.

2. He gave a keynote speech at Asia University for Women Global Conference held in Dhaka from Jan 19-21, 2011 on the theme of Redirecting Science for Development.

3. He moderated and summarized BRAC's Manoshi program dissemination workshop on January 29, 2011. The workshop identified priorities for scaling up maternal and child health services in urban slums.

4. He delivered the MA Quadri lecture to annual meeting of the Bangladesh Medical Association in March 2011.

5. He co-chaired and led the scientific program of the 13th Annual Scientific Conference (ASCON) of icddr,b, "Science to Accelerate Universal Health Coverage" . This was attended by over 700 researchers from Bangladesh and around the world from 14 to 17 March 2011

6. He organized with Vice Chancellor Pran Gopal Datta, BSMMU the launch of the report of the Global Commission on Health

Professionals for the 21st Century with special guest Dr. Lincoln Chen, President of the China Medical Board.

7. He assisted the Government of Bangladesh, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in developing the Project Implementation Plan for the newly agreed health sector strategy (HNPSDP 2012-2016) during March/April 2011.

8. He moderated panel discussion with supermodel Christy Turlington at the Bangladesh Premier of the film, "No Woman No Cry" in June 2011. The film follows a woman from the slums of Dhaka through her pregnancy with commentary from Professor Sabina Rashid of the JPGSPH.

9. Dr. Evans and Md. Nuruzzaman, Research Associate attended a 3 days' workshop on "Health Professional Education for 21st Century: Situational Analysis of 5 Countries Network (Bangladesh, China, India, Thailand and Vietnam)". The workshop was organized by the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kean University in Khon Kean, Thailand from August 15-17, 2011 and funded by the China Medical Board. The main purpose was to develop a common protocol to conduct a similar study to analyze the situation of health professional education (i.e. medical, nursing and public health education) in 5 countries both at public and private level.

10. He attended the 6th Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH) annual conference held from November 8-11, 2011 in Cebu, Philippines. He chaired two plenary sessions: "Managing HRH education to support Universal Health Coverage" and "HRH education in the 21st Century" on November 10, 2011. He also coordinated finalization of a joint protocol the 5 country study group working on HRH education situational analysis.

11. Dr. Evans moderated a discussion on November 15, 2011 in honor of the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and the Every Women Every Child Initiative. Speeches from international guests included United Nations Security General (UNSG) Ban Ki -moon; the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director, Dr. Babafauds Osotimebin and the UNSG Special Envoy Mr. Ray Chambers. Remarks were also provided from leaders in the public and private sectors in Bangladesh representatives of the private sector from Bangladesh Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh that included guests such as Sir Fazle Abed KCMG, Founder and Chairperson BRAC and Dr. Alejandro Cravioto, Executive Director, icddr,b.

Dr. Sabina F Rashid, Professor & MPH Coordinator

1.With support from a Fulbright Research Fellowship, she was a Visiting Scholar (February-August 2011) at the Centre for Gender, Sexuality and Health, Socio-medical Sciences Department, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, USA. She spent the fellowship period writing research articles, and conducted a qualitative study on Bangladeshi immigrants' health and well-being in New York, USA. She rejoined the School on August 5, 2011.

2. She gave keynote addresses entitled 'Cultural and Social Dimensions of Men's Health: Gender and Equity Implications' at BRIDGING THE GAP Gender Equality and Justice - Exploring Masculinities" Symposium in October 11th-12th 2011, at Quaid i- Azam University, Islamabad and October 13th-14th 2011, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. The conference was organized by UN Women, AMAL, ROZAN and Men's Engage Alliance.

3. She attended a WHO convened global conference on Social Determinant of Health from 18-21 October 2011 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to build support for the implementation of action on social determinants of health. She presented at two sessions, on October 18 on 'Importance of Urban Health and Centre for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)' and then presented on October 19 on 'Using a Social Determinants Lens: Situation of Education of Public Health Professionals in Bangladesh' at this conference.

Dr. Nasima Selim, Lecturer II

1. She completed advanced masters in medical anthropology with cum laude (honours) from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Her Masters dissertation was titled, "Doing body, doing mind, doing self: Vipassana Meditation in Everyday Life". She had been on study leave for one year to pursue the degree with a NUFFIC scholarship and joined the department as Senior Lecturer in September 2011.

2. In September 2011, she presented the "Bangladesh Case Study on Reproductive Health Inequity in Bangladesh" in Ciawi, West Java, Indonesia as part of a An Asian Network for Health Sytems short course. The flagship course was on Equity and Health Systems. The event was organized by the Institute of Health Policy, Sri Lanka in collaboration with the World Bank Institute, UNICEF Indonesia and EQUITAP.

3. She presented on 'Negotiation of Cultures in Public Health: Critical Reflections on an Applied Discipline'.

Md. Saiful Islam, Research Associate: He was honored for his strong commitment and dedicated services in helping the needy students of rural Bangladesh by the Volunteers Association for Bangladesh (VAB), a Non Resident Bangladeshi (NRB) on January 22, 2011.

Tisa Muhaddes, Research & Communication Officer: She attended CREA's Count Me In conference in Nepal from April 15-19, 2011. At the conference, she presented the research findings of the Violence against Marginalized Women in Bangladesh project.

Dr. Taufique Joarder, Lecturer:

1. Invited to present his paper 'Meaning of Death: Perception of the Elderly and its Impact on their Well-being' in the Annual Conference of Department of Anthropology, Jahangirnagar University. The conference was held during May 21-22, 2010, where prominent anthropologists from different institutions present to share their current works.

2. Lead Researcher of the 'Revitalizing Health for All' Project commonly known as the CPHC of Revitalizing Health for All' Project that took place in Ottawa from June 12-17, 2011 and presented the findings to other researchers from 17 different countries and to the IDRC representatives.

Mr Kuhel Faizul Islam, Research Associate. He made a visit to Kabul, Afghanistan for a program evaluation of community based healthcare centers run jointly by Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), Afghanistan and BRAC Health International. The purpose of the trip was to explore end-term evaluation of the NOVIB-OXFAM fund and whether it can be aligned with the National Health Policy of Afghanistan.

Ms Ismat Bhuiya, Senior Project Director and Team Leader

1. She attended the 'Meeting of Regional Program Managers on Scaling-up of Adolescent Health Program' organized by World Health Organization and UNFPA held on October 11-14, 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand. Ms Bhuiya contributed in the meeting as an expert on Adolescent Health and drafted the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting along with experts from other countries.

2. She attended the '2011 International Conference on Family Planning: Research and Best Practices' held from November 29 to December 2, 2011 in Dakar, Senegal organized by the Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Government of Senegal's Ministry of Health and Prevention. She presented a paper on 'Factors associated with early childbearing in Bangladesh" in a panel on "Postponing the First Pregnancy in Early Marrying Settings."

Mr Md Nuruzzaman, Research Associate He attended the 6th Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH) annual conference held from November 8-11, 2011 in Cebu, Philippines. He shared the findings of the pre-tested tools of the study "HRH Education Situational Analysis: Bangladesh" as a part of the five country network for HRH education for a new century.

Ms Anuradha Hashemi, Researcher, Centre for Gender, Sexuality and HIV/AIDS, JPGSPH. Presented on 'Courting Violence: Understanding Gender, Power and Romance among Adolescents in Dhaka's Urban Slums'. At the second Inter Asian Cultural Studies Conference on "Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements", December 18, 2011, at BRAC University.

Ms Maliha Bassam, Documentation and Communications Officer, The Global Fund Project, JPGSPH. Presented on 'Transfiguring Perceptions: Media Representations of HIV/AIDS in Bangladesh'. At the second Inter Asian Cultural Studies Conference on "Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements", December 18, 2011, at BRAC University.

Faculty Publications:

Original Articles in peer reviewed journals:

Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid,

- Rashid SF, Owasim Akram; Hilary Standing, (2011), The sexual and reproductive health care market in Bangladesh: where do poor women go? Reproductive Health Matters; 19 (37):1-11.
- Rashid, SF; Standing, H; Mohiuddin, M; and Mahjabeen, F (2011), Creating a Public Space and Dialogue on Sexuality and Rights: A Case Study from Bangladesh; Health Research Policy and Systems, 9 (Suppl 1): S 12.

Case reports/Technical reports:

- Anuradha Hashemi, Sabina Faiz Rashid and Mashida Rashid (2011). "where do women go and why: Understanding the Barriers to Safe MR Services in Bangladesh ." report submitted to UNFPA.
- Hasib, E. Health Risk and Awareness of Injecting Drug Users in Bangladesh: A Quantitative Research Study (Book). Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany, 2011.
- Hasib, E., Ahmed, F., Waid, J. and Ashraf, L. Women Need Less Food? FSNSP Project findings on the Gendered Field of Nutrition in Bangladesh (Abstract). Abstract book of 2nd Inter Asian Cultural Studies Conference, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2011.
- Hasib, E. Ignored Nursing Staff to Deliver Better Health care Services in Bangladesh (abstract). Abstract book of 13th Annual Scientific Conference of icddr,b Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2011.

Original peer reviewed articles:

- Malabika Sarker: Conrad P, De Allegri M, Arinaitwe M, Larsson E, Neuhann F, George Paryo, Sarker M. ANC, the missed opportunities for good quality services: A mixed methods investigation of antenatal care services in rural Uganda (Qualitative Health Research, in Press 2011)
- Ehrle Nina, SchelpFrank P, Sarker M. Emergency contraceptive pills: Knowledge and attitude of pharmacy personnel in Managua, Nicaragua (International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 2011 Jun;37(2):67?74).

Nasima Selim: Original Research Articles:

- Selim, N. et al. (2011). Viscous food and tasting fingers: Notes on an ethnographic experiment. Submitted to HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory for peer review.
- Goudet, S.M., Griffiths, P.L., Bogin, B.A., & Selim, N. (2011). Impact of flooding on Feeding Practices of Infants and Young Children in Dhaka, Bangladesh Slums: What are the coping strategies? Maternal & Child Nutrition, 7 (2):198?214.

Book chapter: Selim, N. (2011). Friendship (and healing) in the 'intersubjectivity of silence'. Accepted for a medical anthropology publication in a volume edited by Marian Tankink & Marianne Vysma in the Netherlands to be published in September 2011.

FULL FACULTY LIST

Timothy Grant Evans, D.Phil, MD Designation: Professor and Dean, JPGSPH
Alejandro Cravioto, PhD, MD, Designation: Executive Director, icddr,b, Professor & Associate Dean, JPGSPH.
Sabina F. Rashid, PhD Designation: Professor and MPH Coordinator, JPGSPH

Abbas Bhuiya, PhD, Designation: Professor, JPGSPH and Deputy Executive Director, icddr,b

Ahmed Al-Kabir, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Professor

Alayne Adams, PhD, Designation: Professor

Kaosar Afsana, PhD, MD, Designation: Professor

Syed Masud Ahmed, PhD, Designation: Professor

Tahmeed Ahmed, PhD, Designation: ProfessorShams El Arifeen, PhD, Designation: Professor

Stephen Luby, PhD, MD, Designation: Head, Program for IDVS, icddr,b. Professor, JPGSPH

Malabika Sarker, PhD, MD, Designation: Professor, JPGSPH

Richard Cash, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Professor

Cole P Dodge, MPH, MA, Designation: Adjunct Professor

Zarina Nahar Kabir, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Professor

Jon Rohde, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Professor

Kazi Mizanur Rahman, MD,MsC. Designation: Assistant Faculty

Loretta DiPietro, PhD, MPH, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Prea Gulati, PhD , Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Md. Iqbal Hossain, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Bilqis Amin Hoque, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Akramul Islam, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Andrew Jenkins, MSc , Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Mahrukh Mohiuddin, BBA, MPH , Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Sangeeta Mookherji, M.H.S, Ph.D, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Laura Jean Reichenbach, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Dorothy Southern, MA, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Aftab Uddin, M.Phil, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

M Mostafa Zaman, MD, PhD, Designation: Adjunct Faculty

Jahangir A. M. Khan, PhD , Designation: Associate Professor

Quamrun Nahar, MD , Designation: Associate Professor

Shafiun Nahin Shimul, MA, Designation: Visiting Faculty

Nasima Selim, MBBS, MPH, MSc Designation: Lecturer II

Md. Tanvir Hasan, MSc, Designation: Lecturer

Enamul Hasib, M.B.B.S,MPH Designation: Lecturer

Ilias Mahmud, MPH , Designation: Lecturer

Institute of Educational Development (IED)

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

Institute of Educational Development (IED)

Since its establishment in 2004, IED BRAC University has been contributing to the improvement of quality, equity and efficiency in the education system through research and development, capacity-building and training, policy dialogue and advocacy. IED's work is geared towards achieving overall societal goals of poverty reduction and development of human capital, as reflected in the national commitments of EFA and MDG goals.

A glimpse of IED's achievements over past year.

MEd in Education

IED runs a one year Master of Education (MEd) Programme in Educational Leadership, Planning and Management. This programme has been operating under a public private partnership. Most participants on the one year course are employed by the government. As of December 2011, 50 participants from the first two batches have successfully completed the programme. Planning is under way for an evening MEd programme to commence in March 2012. The third cohort of the MEd in Educational Leadership, Planning and Management began in September, 2011. The participants are mostly comprised of government Upazila Education Officers (UEO), Assistant Upazila Education Officer (AUEO), Upazila Resource Centre (URC) and Primary Teacher Training Institute (PTI) instructors. In addition to government participants, there are also six non government professionals and one foreign student from Nepal.



Masters in ECD

IED's Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) has flourished as the pioneer of Early Childhood Development (ECD) through launching the first academic programme (Postgraduate Diploma) in ECD in Bangladesh. This programme is unique as it blends classroom instruction with field experience. Based on positive response, a Master of Science (MSc) in ECD was developed and evening classes were conducted from 2008. So far, three batches of thirty-three participants have completed the MSc. The fourth batch of the MSc. in Early Childhood Development started classes from September, 2011. As a result of the high demand for this degree, a parallel evening programme is planned to begin in March 2012.



Action Research

IED conducted action research on 'virtually excluded children' in 100 Registered Non-Government Primary Schools (RNGPSs) to develop approaches for equitable access to primary education. This research led to establishing 200 school-based Learning Centres for Grades I and II, which in turn increased IED's access to RNGPSs. The Learning Centres have led to an increase in attendance, participation in examinations and pass rate among the children who were identified as 'virtually excluded' in selected RNGPSs. Initially 5 need assessment workshops involving 123 head teachers and assistant teachers of RNGPSs were conducted. Later, 13 batches of 311 teachers were trained. Action research has also been conducted with higher secondary level child dropouts to assist them with continuing

their studies. The national curriculum of Grades VI - VIII has been modified at SCOPE centres and adopted according to individual learner needs.



With the objective of developing an effective Comprehensive Child Development Package (CCDP) for children aged 3- 5, IED has also undertaken action research where Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence-III (WPPSI-III) has been adapted to measure children's development.



The ECD in Emergencies Project is a joint endeavour by Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC), and Macquarie University, Australia. It aims at raising awareness, identifying capacity and developing plans for enhanced programmes and services under the umbrella of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for young children. IED, with the Bangladesh Shishu Academy, under Ministry of Women's and Children Affairs, was responsible for collecting data and supporting the research team on behalf of Bangladesh.

Working under Public Private Partnership:
IED was a member of the national working committee of curriculum framework for primary education in 2010. IED was granted the opportunity to design and illustrate 48 textbooks using four colours from Grades I to V for the national primary education system. These books are currently being used by all government primary schools in addition to other schools. As these books have been designed, illustrated and developed by the Curriculum Research and Development Group of IED, the group has also conducted a research through Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and student interviews in various schools within Dhaka and in surrounding areas to find out the impact of these newly published colourful primers. The findings indicate that colour contrast, illustrations and drawings, real-life pictures and the colour blush throughout the pages are very attractive to the students. The Curriculum Research and Development Group of IED has also been involved in a research project on 'School Contact Hours' and use of 'Instructional Time'.





The Professional Development Group was established at IED to add value to the existing DPE/National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE)/ Bureau of Non-formal Education (BNFE) for professional capacity building. IED initiated dialogues with the DPE based on findings from listening workshops. As a result of the dialogues, IED developed short courses on capacity development for head teachers and Assistant Upazila Education Officers (AUEOs). To date, seven batches with a total of ninety three participants have completed the course. Additionally, IED is responsible for designing and delivering five days of Short Course Training on Pre-Primary Education for government officials who are the focal persons at district and upazila level. So far, six batches consisting of one hundred thirty one participants have completed the course.





International Workshops and Seminars

- The MEd faculties (national and international) and a graduate attended at the 55th Annual Conference of the comparative and International Education Society (CIES) on 'Education is that which liberates' in Montreal, Quebec, Canada from 1 - 5 May, 2011. They presented papers on different aspects to highlight the uniqueness of the MEd programme.



- A workshop on 'Improving the Quality of Education: Role of Teachers in Achieving Quality in Education in South Asia (December 26 -28, 2011) was co-organised by the SAARC Human Resource Development Centre (SHRDC) Islamabad, Pakistan and IED BRACU, Dhaka. The main objectives of the workshop were to explore the current situation



of education quality with respect to the teacher's role and develop strategies to improve education quality for the future. This provided participants with the opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge with field experts and further learn about strategies to improve teachers' roles in achieving education quality. Participants from Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh attended the workshop.

- A Research Seminar on Early Childhood Development (ECD) was held on 20th and 21st December, 2011 at BRAC Centre, Dhaka. This

seminar was organised by Bangladesh ECD Network (BEN) with the aim of encouraging policy and action-based scientific knowledge and generate further research interest on ECD. The seminar was inaugurated by Rasheda K Choudhury, Executive Director CAMPE. Around 80 people participated in the seminar. The proceedings consisted of several research presentations, poster presentations and a panel discussion on research findings. The seminar ended with commitments of working for children through evidence based policy advocacy and effective policy implementation.



Institute of Governance Studies (IGS)

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

Institute of Governance Studies (IGS)

The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) is one of the four higher studies and research institutes of BRAC University. The Institute primarily focuses on research and academic activities; however, it also provides training to individuals and technical assistances to institutions, including the government and international development organizations, in a number of other areas relating to governance and public policy. The "State of Governance" (SoG) report, published annually, is the flagship research output of the Institute. The second flagship product of IGS is the "State of Cities" report focusing on urbanisation and its increasing importance at this age of time.

In addition to research activities, the Institute runs a few academic and training programs i.e. Masters in Governance and Development Programme (MAGD); Certificate Course on Environmental Governance in collaboration with the University of Manitoba, Canada; and Training in Purchasing and Supply Chain Management in collaboration with the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, UK. The major projects that are currently operating at the institute are Affiliated Network for Social Accountability- South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR) which is an initiative to establish democratic rights and practices in the governance of South Asia; Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI) which is an initiative to train skilled journalists; Capacity Building for Promoting Governance which is an initiative to train government officials to develop competencies; Bangladesh Youth Survey which is a study on youth development and policy matters. Under PPRP-II, on the other hand, IGS is providing technical assistances to the Ministry of Planning, Government of Bangladesh, in formulating a strategy to engage citizens (third party) in monitoring the transparency and accountability in public procurement process.

Academic/Short Courses and other Training

Inception of the 4th batch of Management in Governance and Development Program

In November 2011, the Institute invited applications for the fourth intake of 'MA in Governance and Development programme (MAGD). 48 candidates participated in the test and among them 24 passed and stood eligible to undertake the course.



Certificate Programme on Environmental Management and Governance

The four month long Certificate Programme for 2nd batch on 'Environmental Management and Governance' ended with a Certificate awarding ceremony at the BRAC University on March 31, 2011. Professor Ainun Nishat, VC of BRAC University was present at the occasion and distributed certificates among the students. The course was attended by professionals from Government, NGOs and corporate sector. Besides, IGS started its 3rd batch of the Programme from November 16, 2011 with 12 students.

Training on Purchasing and Supply Chain Management

IGS has been registered with the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS), UK since September 2009 as the first CIPS Study Centre in the South Asia region. Under this programme, the first cohort consisting of 20 public procurement officials completed Foundation Diploma in Purchasing and Supply (level-4). In the year 2011, this group completed an Advanced Diploma in Purchasing and Supply (Level-5) and then went to the National School of Government in UK where they finished their Graduate Diploma in Purchasing and Supply (Level-6). The Foundation Diploma for the cohort-2 started in July 2011. This batch is consisted of another 20 public procurement

officials. This group has completed their level 4 and enrolled for level-5. In 2011, 17 participants in total from public sector obtained MCIPS degree. IGS also initiated CIPS program for private sector professionals engaged in procurement and supply. The first batch started with 15 participants in July 2011 while the second batch consisting of 8 participants has enrolled and currently pursuing Foundation Diploma. IGS in the meantime has also designed a Masters in Procurement and Supply Management and is waiting for the approval of the University Grants Commission to launch this new programme in 2012.

Research Publications

The State of Governance in Bangladesh

Since 2006, IGS has been publishing an annual report called 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh'.

The first three reports i.e. from 2006-2008 focused on the institutions and politics of Bangladesh from the governance perspective. The upcoming fourth report (2011-2012) focuses on the 40th Anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh and explores how the influence of the external stakeholders has affected the policy making process. As part of the ongoing research the research team conducted several field visits in Rangpur, Kurigram and Lalmonirhat and interviewed both NGO and non-NGO leaders including trade unions, local government leaders, media representatives, local political leaders and university teachers.

The State of Cities (SOC)

In 2011 IGS started working on its second flagship publication, the State of City Report. For this purpose, researchers conducted several interviews, focus group discussions and a survey on the state of service delivery in Dhaka. As part of the SOC publication, the team had a number of workshops with external consultants - Professors. Geoff Wood, Dr. Joe Devine from Bath University. As part of the report, IGS arranged a Brainstorming Workshop for its research team from April 7-9, 2011 at Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center in Savar. In the workshop IGS researchers presented their respective chapters under the State of Cities (SoC) Report and Dr. Geof Wood, Emeritus Professor of the University of Bath provided comments and suggestions. Dr. Ipshita Basu, Head of Research of IGS facilitated the program.

Later on, after initial drafting of the chapters IGS organised another workshop on the State of Cities (SOC) Report on October 5 which was attended by the research team and peer reviewers for different chapters of the SOC. Dr. Salahuddin M Aminuzzaman, Dr. Iftekhar Iqbal, Dr. Simeen Mahmud, Dr. Ferdous Jahan, Dr. Jalal Alamgir and Dr. Kishore Kumar Singh were present at the workshop as peer reviewers.

Projects

Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA-SAR)

ANSA-SAR has conducted various trainings, field visits and workshops all throughout 2011 both at home and abroad.



The significant trainings that were conducted were on Improving Service Delivery and Qualitative and Quantitative techniques in January and March respectively. The first one was targeted at Income Tax Commissioners at Dhaka and the latter at the UN project officers.

The Chief Operating Officer of ANSA-SAR, Dr. Gopakumar Thampi has conducted a number of other presentations and lectures in Sri Lanka for Sri Lankan Members and Associations, World Bank and government sector officials regarding social accountability and ANSA-SAR's progress. These took place in August and May 2011 respectively.



In addition ANSA-SAR has conducted considerable numbers of workshops on Social Accountability, Knowledge Sharing, Use of Information and Communications Technology in collaboration with Asia Foundation and many other partner organisations at Dhaka, outside Dhaka and Thailand and provided technical assistance service to the Asia Foundation branch of Sri Lanka.

ANSA-SAR was first officially launched in Manila, Philippines at the end of June.

Besides, a new Chief Operating Officer named Naimur Rahman took the lead of ANSA-SAR at IGS in October and upon joining delivered a speech in Delhi on the Changing Socio-Economic political scenario. In September ANSA team members visited two of its grantees in India to discuss about youth development in rural region.

Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI)

JATRI has conducted a number of training programs, public lectures and discussions and fellowship award programs in 2011. Major issues



of the training programs included Investigative Reporting, Ethics and Standards of journalism, Interviewing and Source Development techniques, Planning and Research on Investigative journalism and training on Story telling for women journalists. Each of these programs were attended by significant media personnel e.g. news editors of different channels, newspapers, Dhaka University professors and others.



JATRI also organized public lecture on Media Education from Bangladesh perspective, Gender and Media, Journalism in Bangladesh: Past, Present and Way Forward, Language of FM Radio, Language of Advertisement and State of Press Freedom in Bangladesh 2010. These too were attended by significant media personnel and NGO officials.

Other Events Held

American journalist Amy Herdy in JATRI

Amy Herdy, the famous American journalist and media consultant visited JATRI on September 25, 2011 to conduct a session on "Investigative Journalism: Past, Present and Way Forward. The program was jointly organised by the American Center, US Embassy and JATRI.

Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids Program

JATRI organised CTFK (Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids) program in November 2011. The program was attended by Ruhul Amin Rushd of Banglavision, Mohammad Nadim from the Daily Ittefaq, Rita Nahar from Boishakhi TV and many other media personnel. In this program, the affects of tobacco intake and causes and prevention were discussed.



Nobel Laureate, Amartya Sen Visited JATRI

On December 29, JATRI organised a view exchange meeting which was attended by Nobel Laureate, Professor Amartya Sen. The meeting was attended by Professor Rehman Sobhan, Professor Rawnak Jahan, Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar at BRAC University. The Salma Sobhan Fellows talked about how they were evaluated everywhere after obtaining this fellowship and it has added value to their careers by opening up new opportunities. . Altogether 8 journalists were awarded for their performance in investigative journalism in 2011.





Capacity Building for Promoting Governance (NICHE/NUFFIC)

IGS in collaboration with the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center initiated a 4-year project named 'Capacity Building for Promoting Governance'. The project has been undertaken under the Netherlands Initiative for Capacity Development in Higher Education (NICHE)/NUFFIC. As part of the project, a four member team, 2 from IGS and 2 from BPATC (Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center) went on a 10-day visit to The Netherlands from December 10-19, 2011 to finalise the project document.

Bangladesh Youth Survey (BYS)

The Bangladesh Youth Survey (BYS) is currently one of the major on-going research projects at IGS which is co-funded by the Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) and UNDP as well as IDRC grant from IGS. The BYS includes a nation-wide quantitative survey (among 6,500 youths. During September to November, the BYS team at IGS conceptualised and finalised a questionnaire for conducting a national-level Youth Survey. This included a kick-off workshop and brain storming session at IGS in October 2011, as well as a regional Planning Workshop in Colombo from November 11-12, 2011. The quantitative survey was carried out in all 64 districts across the country, covering about 6,500 respondents among the age group 15-30. Overall, three different field trips have been carried out by members of the BYS team. These included field work in Chittagong, Comilla and Sylhet Divisions.

Conferences/ Workshop/ Seminars/ Symposium/ Talk/ Discussion

International Conference on 40 Years of Bangladesh: Retrospect and Future Prospects

To mark the 40 years of Independence of Bangladesh, IGS organised the first International Conference on "40 Years of Bangladesh: Retrospect and Future Prospects" during November 26-28 2011 in collaboration with Centre for Development Studies (CDS) of Bath University. The theme of the conference was to



reflect back on the relative successes and shortcomings, and to look forward to future prospects for governance reform in Bangladesh.

The inaugural launching session was held at the BRAC Centre Inn, Mohakhali, Dhaka on November 26, 2011, while the main program was held at the BRAC-CDM (BRAC Centre for



Development Management) at Khagan, Savar from November 27-28. Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, Former Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government, People's Republic of Bangladesh was the Chief Guest of the launching session which was chaired by Professor Golam Samdani Fakir, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University. Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Adviser (International Affairs) to the Prime Minster of Bangladesh was the Special Guest on the occasion. The Chief Guest, Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman reflected upon the state of Bangladeshi region from pre-historic times and its state and governance within the years of evolvement in his memorable speech delivered at the launching ceremony.



A total of 36 articles were presented in the Conference by 41 academics and scholars from well known universities of the world and research and development organizations such as Yale University, USA; London School of Economics and Political Science of University of London; University of BATH, UK, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India; University of Dhaka; University of Chittagong; University of Alabama, University of Kebangsaan, Malaysia, as well as BRAC University.

Curriculum Review Workshop

IGS organised a Curriculum Review Workshop from January 21-22, 2011 at BRAC Centre for Development Management in Savar, Dhaka. Alumni from three batches of the MA in Governance and Development (MAGD) participated at the workshop. Among others Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Dr Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Saleh Uddin Ahmad, Ex-Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Barrister



Manzoor Hasan, Director of IGS, Dr. Donald Curtis, Evaluator of MAGD, Professor MM. Khan and Professor N.A. Kalimullah, among other academics were present at the workshop. The workshop was coordinated and facilitated by Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS.

Regional Planning Workshop

A Regional Planning Workshop was carried out in Colombo from November 11-12, 2011. The rationale of this planning workshop was to explore the possibilities of establishing a network of scholars in South Asia who work on Youth and Politics. Members of the IGS team included Dr. Elvira Graner, Research Fellow, Fatema Samina Yasmin, Research Assistant and Mahboob Elahi Akhter; Research Assistant gave presentations about the core findings of their respective surveys.

"10th International Research Conference on Quality, Innovation & Knowledge Management
M. Jahirul Qayum, Senior Programme Manger, IGS, attended the "10th International Research Conference on Quality, Innovation & Knowledge Management - Aligning Innovation in Development & Emerging Economies from February 15-18, 2011 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, organised by Monash University. Mr. Qayum presented a paper on "E-Government Initiatives in Bangladesh - Need for a Holistic View and Engagement of Government Staff".

Forum on "Economic Governance of Dhaka City"

Dr. Elvira Graner, Research Fellow, Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Sr. Research Associate and Mahboob Elahi Akhter, Research Assistant of IGS attended the "Bangladesh Urban Research Forum 2011" from May 26-27, 2011. The forum was arranged by Khulna University, Bangladesh, on "Economic Governance of Dhaka City".

Participation in TLC Workshop

In September 2011 a group of four IGS researchers/faculties participated in the 5th Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) Workshop of BRAC University, a capacity building orientation for the university's faculty. The curriculum of the 5th TLC included basic concepts of learning and teaching.

Strategy Review Workshop and Annual Planning:

On November 29, IGS organized a half day workshop to evaluate the activities of 2011 and review and update the strategies of (2012-15). All IGS employees participated in this session. Divisional as well as overall IGS strategy was discussed and an updated annull plant was developed in this workshop.

IGS Researcher Presented paper at Rutgers University, USA

Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate of IGS, participated in the first global conference on Transparency Research from May 18-20. The conference was organised by the School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey, USA. He presented a paper titled "Improving Transparency in Public Procurement in Bangladesh: Use of Right to Information and Whistleblowers' Protection laws at sub national levels".

IGS Researcher Participated in the Peacebuilding Training by SIT





Md. Harun Or Rashid, Research Associate of IGS joined a training programme named 'Peacebuilding Education and Training for SAARC emerging Leaders' from December 07-18, 2011 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The training was organised by the School for International Training (SIT) of Vermont, USA under its Conflict Transformation across Cultures (CONTACT) Project. Mr. Rashid was selected as the Country Representative of the CONTACT.

Presentation in Bangalore

Dr. Ipshita Basu, Head of Research of IGS, presented a paper on "Securitisation of Development: Investigating India's two-pronged policy towards left wing extremism" at CSTEP, Bangalore on May 27, 2011. The paper has been confirmed for publication in Contemporary South Asia 2011 Vol. 19 Issue 4.



Discussion of IAT at Carter Center:

The Carter Center made a partnership with IGS in the piloting process of its Access to Information Implementation Assessment Tool (IAT) in Bangladesh along with Mexico and South Africa. Six ministries were identified for the piloting process and they were ministries of health, education, finance, and agriculture. Dr. Rizwan Khair and Mohammad Sirajul Islam from IGS were the key researchers in the conduct of the piloting process in Bangladesh. Sirajul Islam participated and shared his thoughts and experiences in the IAT Pilot Phase 1 meeting from December 12-13, 2011, organized by The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

11th Asian Urbanization Conference at Hyderabad

Rubayet Hamid, Research Assistant of IGS attended the 11th Asian Urbanization Conference from December 10-19, 2011. The conference was organised by Osmania University, Hyderabad, India. She delivered a presentation on "Children of the City"- An Inter-generational Account of Urbanization, Poverty and Child Wellbeing in Dhaka City.

Brainstorming Session on Civil Service Act

IGS organised a brainstorming session on April 23, 2011 at Dhaka to solicit comments and recommendations on the draft Civil Service Act 2011 from practioners' perspective. 16 civil servants across the country participated in the session.

Workshop on 'Government and Opposition'

Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director-In-Charge of IGS attended a workshop on "Government and Opposition Workshop - Roles, Rights and Responsibilities" arranged by Commonwealth Secretariat and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at Male, Maldives from June 13-15, 2011

Presentation Conducted by the Director-In Charge

Dr. Rizwan Khair, the Director-In-Charge, visited Kathmandu, Nepal, from June 29-30, 2011 to participate in a conference titled: 'In Search of Better Governance: Challenges and Prospects' organised by Central Department of Public Administration of Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and Department of Public Administration & Organisation Theory, Bergen University, Norway to present a paper titled 'The Complementary of Politics and Administration in Developing Countries: A Theoretical Paradox".

IGS Director gave Lecture in BPATC

Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director-In-charge, IGS, delivered lectures on 'Public Sector Reforms' in the Advanced Course for Administration and Development (ACAD) and the Senior Staff Course (SSC) in August 2011.

Technical Assistance:

Public Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC) Meetings Held:

The third, fourth and fifth PPSC meetings were held this year at the NEC Conference Room II of the Planning Commission Campus in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka. A K Khandker, Air Vice Marshall, (Retd.) Honourable Minister, Ministry of Planning, and Chairperson of the Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC) chaired these meetings. As a part of technical assistance IGS published the 5th PPSC quarterly newsletter.



Promoting Democratic Institutions and Practices (PRODIP)

In December 2011, IGS has signed an agreement with Asia Foundation to provide technical assistance in conducting PRODIP activities. As a part of technical assistance IGS will develop and produce a comprehensive toolkit and advocacy training curriculum. IGS will also provide technical assistance in the publication of toolkits.

BRAC DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (BDI)

BRAC DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (BDI)

Who We Are

BDI is a resource center for promoting research and building knowledge on practical solutions for addressing poverty, inequity and social injustice. It provides a space for academics and practitioners to come together to raise critical questions on development, build knowledge around exciting initiatives in the South, develop new ideas and new strategies, pilot test such ideas, provide important lessons on good practices to practitioners, policy makers and donors, and advocate for pro-poor policies. `

Teaching and Learning

BDI offers the following interdisciplinary academic courses:

i. Masters in Development Studies (MDS)

The programme is designed to provide an in-depth, inter-disciplinary understanding of development concepts and issues. On completion of the programme, students will be able to approach and analyze development issues in the context of globalization, economic transformation, and social, cultural and political changes.

The MDS programme currently has a total of 96 students, of which 35 joined in Fall 2011.

ii. Masters in Development Management and Practice (MDMP)

BRAC Development Institute (BDI) at BRAC University launched the MDMP programme for the first time in Bangladesh. The programme is a member of the Global Network of MDMP programme, based at the Earth Institute at Columbia University in New York, supported by the MacArthur Foundation. Professor Syed M Hashemi inaugurated the opening session of the programme on 9th January, 2011.

MDMP is targeted at academics, researchers and management staff in the development sector, both in government and non-governmental organizations. The curriculum of this programme includes core courses in key aspects of this field supplemented by internship opportunities at various leading national and international development agencies. Save the Children, ICDDR,B, JICA, WaterAid Bangladesh, VSO and IUCN are some of the development agencies in which the students of the inaugural batch are currently doing their internship.

The postgraduate certificate course on Management of Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (MLARR) explores issues of land acquisition processes and approaches to resettlement in Bangladesh. The course introduces key concepts, tools and techniques required to effectively acquire land and manage the resettlement process of development induced displaced people. The course runs for the duration of an entire semester, fourteen weeks.
In 2011, 13 participants from government and development sectors successfully completed the course. Further, a five-day short course was held in May 2011, in Uganda, training 26 participants of government officials, academics and project staffs.

iv. Introductory Course on Microfinance

The introductory course on Microfinance is a ten day course intended for those with little or no knowledge of microfinance. It provides a broad global picture of the state of microfinance, its emergence and challenges, and its future. It is grounded in the experience of Bangladesh. Student from Japan participated in the first course offered in September 2009. Over time, students from many other countries, including USA, Denmark, Indonesia, and the Republic of Cameroon have participated in this course.

Ongoing Research at BRAC Development Institute (BDI)

1. Towards New Pathways for the Poorest: Linking Social Protection and Financial Service

Research Director: Syed M Hashemi
Funded by MasterCard Foundation
BRAC Development Institute is a secretariat for the CGAP-Ford Foundation Graduation Programme. The programme is a global effort to understand how safety nets, livelihoods, and

microfinance can be sequenced to create pathways for the poorest out of extreme poverty, adapting a methodology developed by BRAC in Bangladesh. The Graduation Programme is helping to implement ten Graduation Pilots in eight countries - Haiti, Honduras, Peru, Pakistan, India, Ethiopia, Yemen, Ghana - in partnership with local organizations. Five pilots are completed. BDI is conducting qualitative research in several sites.

2. Community and Institutional Responses to the Challenges Facing Poor urban People in Era of Global Warming in Bangladesh

Research Director: Ferdous Jahan
Funded by DFID-ESRC
As urban poverty continues to be neglected in research, policy and action for climate change adaption, this project, through its analytical framework, aims to place a strong emphasis on poor people's adaption practices to understand their agency, cultural resources and economic strategies. The attention is also placed on the structural factors that both support and constrain the poor people's agency. Six low income settlements have been chosen for case studies from three cities- Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna.

3. Women's Empowerment and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Bangladesh

Principle Investigator: Sidney Ruth Schuler
Funded by NIH through FHI 360, USA
The project is being implemented by BRAC Development Institute in collaboration with FHI 360, a US- based international organization. The objective of this project study is to clarify the individual and community-level mechanisms by which a woman's empowerment is associated with her risk of experiencing IPV in rural Bangladesh. The research is going to strengthen the understanding of the correlation between various aspects of women empowerment, the social dimensions and the risk of women's experiencing IPV.

4. The Social Impact of Micro finance on Gender norms and Behaviour

Research Director: Simeen Mahmud
Funded by Institute of Microfinance, Dhaka
The research intends to study the spread, nature and wider impact of Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) on gender norms and behavior. It focuses on the question of programme duration, diffusion of programme impact throughout communities that differ in their experience of programme intensity. It also focuses on some salient modalities of MFI programmes and their interactions with social dimensions and characteristics of communities. The main outcomes of interest in this study are changes in gender norms and behaviors.

5. Assessing the performance of the GQAL programme in changing gender norms and behaviours

Research Director: Simeen Mahmud, Maheen Sultan
Funded by Gender Justice and Diversity, BRAC
The BDI research attempts to assess the level of gender equality within households and in the wider community in GQAL program areas, and compare with a similar non GQAL area. Further, the project is going to assess the extent to which the wider community is mobilized to take action against gender inequality.

Completed Research at BRAC Development Institute (BDI)

1. Methods for Assessing Attitudes toward Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in rural Bangladesh

Principle Investigator: Sidney Ruth Schuler
Funded by Academy for Educational Development (AED), USA
Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is a socially accepted behavioral reality. Any attempt to change this behavioral phenomenon requires modifying individual attitude and community norms about IPV. This research was undertaken to develop better methodological tools for understanding women's and men's individual attitudes about various forms of IPV and their perceptions of norms about IPV in their communities.

2. Revisiting Devaluation of Daughters in Bangladesh: continuity or Change?

Research Director: Simeen Mahmud
Funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), India

The research intends to understand why there has been greater reduction in gender disadvantage in sex ratios, in Bangladesh, compared to India and Pakistan, in spite of higher levels of poverty. This research is expected to provide a better grasp of the gender dynamics of social change, particularly change that appears to promote more egalitarian gender relations. The 18 month research has been conducted in collaboration with Professor Naila Kabeer of the School for Oriental and Asian Studies, London.

3. Social Protection in Asia

Research Director: Syed M Hashemi
Funded by Institute of Development Studies, Sussex
BDI conducted an ethnographic study to understand the lives of BRAC's "Targeting the Ultra Poor" (TUP) program members, the process through which they bring about improvements in their conditions and the factors that hold them back or even intensify their poverty and insecurity. The program provides grants for consumption support and small assets, skills training, health and social development inputs and two years of close monitoring to help participants gain confidence, develop sustainable livelihoods and graduate out of the ranks of the ultra poor.

4. Pathway of Women's Empowerment Research Programme

Programme Coordinator: Maheen Sultan
Funded by UK's Department for International Development (DFID)
This International Research Programme Consortium made up of activists and academics who explore and seek to bring about positive change in women's everyday lives. It involves research institutions located in universities in Ghana, Brazil, Egypt and IDS, Sussex as well as UN Women. In this project, the conceptualizations of women's empowerment by different actors are identified. The findings are then used as a means to challenge prevalent thinking on women's empowerment and to understand the deeper historical tendencies and underlying patterns of thought and action which have led to the various actors conceptualizing women's empowerment in diverse ways.

5. Urban Poverty Action Research Project

Research Director: Mirza Hassan
Funded by Rockefeller Foundation
BRAC Development Institute (BDI) has conducted a multi-year, multi-site action research project in collaboration with two implementing partners, UPPR (Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction) project of UNDP and WaterAid Bangladesh. The action research "Building Capacities and Creating Communities: Towards a Multi-Sector Initiatives in Urban Slums of Bangladesh," seeks to create sustainable livelihood pathways for the poor, construct a more inhabitable built environment providing access to basic services and develop systems of collaboration and governance that can allow for a more empowering future for slum dwellers in urban Bangladesh.

Events

Conference on Faith- Inspired Development
In January 2011, BDI cosponsored a two-day workshop, held in Dhaka, on faith-inspired development, in partnership with Georgetown University's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs and the World Faith Development Dialogue. As part of the Berkley Center's global mapping of faith-inspired organizations in development work sponsored by the Luce/SFS Program on Religion and International Affairs, the consultation brought together over twenty practitioners from different faiths across South and Central Asia to brainstorm on issues around education, gender and peace building. The consultation outcomes led to the publication of reports outlining critical actors, best practices, and ways forward.

Workshop on "The Microfinance Sector in Bangladesh: Next Generation Challenges"

BRAC Development Institute (BDI) organized a workshop on January 10, 2011 to discuss how Bangladesh faces next generation challenges in microfinance and prepares for a future that promises a true democratization of the financial sector and quality access to all poor households. Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud, Department of Economics, Dhaka University chaired the

workshop. Professor Syed M Hashemi, Director, BDI presented a review of the key challenges facing the microfinance sector in Bangladesh. Designated speakers included Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, Chairman, Power and Participation Center (PPRC), Mr Md. Shafiqual Haque Choudhury, Founder and President of ASA, Dr Sajjad Zohir, Economic Research Group (ERG), Mr Sanjay Sinha, Managing Director, Micro-Credit Ratings International Limited and Stephen Rasmussen, Lead Specialist, Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP).

Climate Change Dialogue

Professor Ainun Nishat, Professor Syed M. Hashemi and Dr Ferdous Jahan attended a policy exchange dialogue titled "Climate Change and Bangladesh: Challenges and Solutions for the Urban Poor" at the Khulna Circuit House in Khulna on 19th February, 2011. The dialogue was held with government officials, members of the civil society and academics based in Khulna to discuss the problems faced by the urban poor due to climate change, the steps being taken to alleviate these problems, the role of different organizations in providing these solutions and the steps that can be taken by government and non-government organizations to address these issues.

Third Global Graduation Meeting Organized

BDI along with CGAP and the Ford Foundation, organized the third Global Graduation Meeting on March 24-25 2011, in Paris. This event was funded by the MasterCard Foundation. The CGAP-Ford Foundation Graduation Program is a global effort to understand how safety nets, livelihoods and microfinance can be sequenced to create pathways for the poorest out of extreme poverty, adapting a methodology developed by BRAC in Bangladesh. Since 2006, CGAP and Ford Foundation have adapted BRAC's experience to other countries and contexts. Ten graduation pilots are underway, in Haiti, India in three places (with Bandhan, SKS, and Trickle Up), Pakistan, Honduras, Peru, Ethiopia, Yemen, and Ghana. The 10 pilots involve diverse institutional forms, economic contexts, and cultures. The Global Graduation Meeting was a unique opportunity to discuss lessons learned from the more advanced pilots and discuss challenges of ongoing implementation. This meeting was a step towards continuing to build our practitioner network around the graduation initiative. Pakistan/Bangladesh/India: Building a Field of Scholarship and Dialogue on 1971

BDI organized a two-day workshop on "Pakistan/Bangladesh/India: Building a Field of Scholarship and Dialogue on 1971" on March 16-17, 2011. The workshop allowed for exchange and helps break down intellectual and social boundaries between researchers from a variety of perspectives and national back-grounds, facilitating a more smooth transition toward future research and even network formation on a theme that continues to reverberate in contemporary South Asia.



At the workshop titled "Pakistan/ Bangladesh/ India: Building a Field of Scholarship & Dialogue on 1971"

Launching of "Ogni o Jol: Rupantorer Golpo" & "Narir Khomotayon: Poribortoner Gotipoth"



Book launching ceremony of "Ogni o Jol: Rupantorer Kotha" & "Narir Khomotayon: Poribortoner Gotipoth"

"Ogni o Jol: Rupantorer Golpo," a book of short stories on women's empowerment based on a unique collaboration of researchers and writers as well as "Narir Khomotayon: Poribortoner Gotipoth," a set of six Bangla booklets was launched on 12 March 2011 on the occasion of International Women's Day. All the writers who contributed to Ogni o Jol were present at the books launching ceremony held at Nawab Ali Senate Bhaban, Dhaka University. Younger writers shared their experiences of being part of the Stories4 Change project; Selina Hossain, writer, shared her personal reflections on the journey from turning research findings to fiction. The ceremony featured story-telling performances by Shamim Azad and Nilufer Yasmin, prose and songs, as well as visual clips of the creative writing process that produced these stories. A story telling performance by Chitra Sultana was also part of this occasion. The book was launched by Ruby Rahman, poet and Member omber of Parliament.

International Conference on Mobilizing Resources for Women's Empowerment

The conference was organized jointly by the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) and Pathways programme in Amsterdam from 21-22 March, 2011. It was held to disseminate the final report on the comparative study on Bangladesh and Ghana. It was attended by Women's rights organizations from Ghana and Bangladesh, donors and researchers. It was attended by representatives from five case study organizations from Bangladesh and two donor representatives (CIDA and MJF) as well as the two researchers from Bangladesh (Maheen Sultan and Sohela Nazneen).

Course on "Financial Services for the Poor: An Introduction"



The course participants with Sir Fazle Hasan Abed

BRAC Development Institute (BDI) organized a two-week course on "Financial Services for the Poor: An Introduction" from April 23 - May 5, 2011. This was the fourth edition of the course which is targeted mostlyto an international audience with little or no knowledge of microfinance. The course is grounded in the experience of Bangladesh but also provides a broad global picture of the state of microfinance, its emergence and challenges, the diversity of financial products on offer and the need to have a strong poverty focus. It is team taught, using different pedagogical methods, and includes extensive fto BRAC, Grameen, ASA, B S

New Member of the External Forum on Gender of the Asian Development Bank

Maheen Sultan, Research Programme Coordinator, BDI was selected to be a member of the ExternalForum on Gender (EFG) of the Asian Development Bank, which is an honorary position. The first meeting of the forum that she attended was 27-29 May 2011.

Workshop on Missing Daughters in Asia: Trends and Challenges

From July 30-31, 2011, ten academics, activists, government officials and researchers from China, India, Vietnam and Bangladesh convened at the BRAC Centre to attend a workshop titled "Missing Daughters in Asia: Trends and Challenges." The workshop was organized by

BRAC Development Institute (BDThe four countries were selected because of a shared pattern of gender discrimination that resulted in excess levels of female mortality in most age groups, leading to a higher than average ratios of men women in their overall populations. The workshop was designed to facilitate a dialogue on missing daughters in Asia, providing a forum where research, strategies and ideas could be openly exchanged and analyzed.

Launching of the Bangladesh Microfinance Review

BDI published the first edition of an annual microfinance review, the Bangladesh Microfinance Review, in August 2011. The report, written by Sanjay Sinha of M-CRIL, analysed the financial performancethe top ten microfinance institutions in the country for the year 2009 and presented institutional and industry wide trend analysis regarding outreach, growth, profitability, sustainability and risk.



The launching event of the 1st edition of the Bangladesh Microfinance Review: published by BDI

The launch event was attended by over 90 members of the industry including microfinance practitioners, donors, investors, regulators and academics who discussed the emergent issues of the microfinance sectoand the future outlook. Dr Atiur Rahman, Governor of the Bangladesh Bank, was the Chief Guest and apanel of distinguished experts including Dr Mahabub Hossain, BRAC, Dr Rashid Faruqee, Instituteof Microfinance, Steve Rasmussen, CGAP andSanjay Sinha, M-CRIL and Hassan Zaman, BangladeshBank shared their insights. The event was chaired by Professor Syed M. Hashemi, Director, BRAC Development Institute. The launch stimulated discussion on the lack of standardized and timely data collection practices in Bangladesh and highlighted the policy implications of a lack of credibility in datreporting. BDI's efforts to initiate a microfinance state of the sector report in Bangladesh were widelyappreciated and attendees recognized the need for such a review to be conducted annually in order to serve as an industry benchmark.

Workshop on Management of Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (MLARR)

BRAC Development Institute (BDI) in collaboration with World Bank has organized a three day International Curriculum Development Workshop on Management of Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (MLARR) from October 17-20, 2011. Academics and resettlement specialist from China, Uganda, Colombia and Bangladesh and several World Bank officials participated in the workshop. From all the participant countries, the respective Universities that took part in the workshop include BRAC University, Bangladesh; National Research Center for Resettlement (NRCR), Hohai University, China; Uganda Martyrs University (UMU), Uganda and University de los Andes, Columbia.



The goal of the workshop was to develop a standard curriculum of MLARR courses and expand collaboration among the participants. With the goal in mind, a series of presentations by the participating countries and brain storming sessions took place to make the curriculum more effective and practical. The workshop ended with several action plans such as curriculum development for Uganda and Colombia, student and faculty exchanges among countries,

scholarships, joint research and publications etc.

Pathways of Women's Empowerment Programme, conference titled "Revisioning Women's Empowerment: New Horizons"

The "Revisioning Women's Empowerment: New Horizons" organized by BRAC Development



Institute (BDI) from July 26-28, 2011 showcased the work of Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Programme South Asia Hub over the past five years. The three-day closing confereaimed to generate debate and discussion around the findings of the Pathways researches and thimplications for the different actors working on women's empowerment. The conference highlighted the positive changes and new opportunities in women's lives in personal, familial, cultural, social, economic and political spheres along with the challenges to women's empowerment. Various research findings of the Pathways of Women's Empowerment research programme of BDI were presented at this conference.





At the three-day closing conference "Revisioning Women's Empowerment: New Horizons"

Workshop on Promotional Safety Nets and Graduation Models in Bangladesh

BRAC Development Institute (BDI), with the support of the World Food Programme (WFP), organized a day long learning event on "Promotional Safety Nets and Graduation Models in Bangladesh" on September 12, 2011. M Aslam Alam, Secretary, Disaster Management and Relief Division, Ministry of Food Disaster Management, Christa Rader, Country DirectorWFP, Mahabub Hossain, Executive Director, BRACand Binayak Sen, Research Directors, BIDS made thspeech at the event. The workshop was chaired by the Director of BDI, Professor Syed M Hashemi.



The primary objective of this workshop was to present an analytical understanding of six of the more significant safety net programmes for the ultra podiscuss lessons on what works and what does not, the challenges of sustainability and replicability. These six programmes are distinguishable from othas they focus on building the economic capacity of households to sustain long term food security. This learning event called attention to the positive impacts of the promotional safety net programmes, the key lessons, the limits to graduation out of extreme

poverty and the role of government in scaling up the programmes.

Student Exchange Program (Ottawa University-SIDGS and BRAC University- BDI)



The School of International Development and Global Studies (SIDGS) in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ottawa contributesto the development of knowledge, research and public policy dealing with issues of international development and globalization. SIDGS offers an Undergraduate and a Graduate Programme in International Development and Globalization. SIDGS and BDI established a student exchange program to institute, on a reciprocal basis and in



their respective interests, a protocol allowing the exchange of undergraduate and graduate students. The coordination of the exchange program was initiated between (Director of BDI), John Sinclair (Senior Fellow at SIDGS) and Gordon Betcherman (Professor in the School of International Development and Global Studies)

Under this agreement six BRAC University students were selected to attend the Fall 2010 semester at the University of Ottawa, albeit four of our students could not participate in the program. From University of Ottawa, seven students attended the Spring 2011 semester at BRAC University.



The exchange students of University of Ottawa at a field trip

BRACU Students at Ottawa in Fall 2010	**Ottawa Students at BRACU in Spring 2011**
Anika Mariam (Undergraduate)	Victoria Zeppa
Daraksha Binte Hossain (Undergraduate)	Alicia Dobson
Saidur Rahman Sagor (Graduate)	Edith Pedneault
Hafsa Rahman (Graduate)	Ethan Plato
	Sepideh Soltaninia
	Karyn Elizabeth Vanden Boomen
	Jonathan Williams

Workshop on Urban Poverty related action research entitled "Building Capacity and Creating Communities: Towards a Multi-Sector Initiative in Urban Slums of Bangladesh"

BDI organized a workshop on December 29th, 2011 to reflect on the findings of the action research and lessons learnt during the last three years. The workshop focused on the following broad issues: tenure security, nature of community mobilization, child labor and education, built environment, access to finance and livelihood, access to utility, and access to health services.

The workshop brought together slum level community leaders, local government representatives, national urban experts as well as local and national level officials of UPPR (Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction) project of UNDP and WaterAid Bangladesh. In addition, programme officials of other agencies that have intervention programmes in the five treatment slums were invited to participate in the workshop.

Development Immersion Program on "The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in Economic Development"

BDI organized a 3 week development immersion program titled "The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in Economic Development" for ten undergraduate students and two faculty members from Colgate University. They stayed in Bangladesh from December 28, 2011 to January 17, 2012. The primary goal of this stand alone course was to study the role that can be played by non-governmental

Organizations in alleviating poverty and advancing the status of women in a low-income nation. Specifically it examined the work of BRAC in Bangladesh. The course was composed of both lectures and on-site visits to BRAC centers and other organizations working in the field of development.





The Colgate Students during on- site visits

Publications

Publications in National and International Peer Reviewed Journal

- "Measurement of Women Empowerment in Rural Bangladesh" by Simeen Mahmud, Lead Researcher, BRAC Development Institute, BRAC University (With Stan Beckar and Nirali Shah), World Development, (accepted in July 2011, in press), Elsevier

- Editorial introduction: Islam, culture and women by Firdous Azim, pages 173-175, Special Issue, Inter-Asia cultural Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Online, March 2011

- Piety, music and gender transformation: reconfiguring women as culture bearing markers of modernity and nationalism in Bangladesh by Samia Huq, Pages 225-239, Special Issue, Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Online, March 2011

- Women, Islam and nation in Bengal by Firdous Azim, Pages 254-258, Special Issue, Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Online, March 2011

Working Papers, Research Reports and Publication in Peer Reviewed Periodicals

- "The Under Reporting of Women's Economic Activity in Bangladesh: An Examination of Official Statistics," by Simeen Mahmud, Lead Researcher, BRAC Development Institute (BDI), with Sakiba Tasneem. BDI Working Paper No.1, 2011

- "Religion and Muslim Women: Trajectories of Empowerment" by Samia Huq & Sahida Khondakar, BRAC Development Institute (BDI). BDI Working Paper No.2, 2011

- "National Discourses on Women Empowerment in Bangladesh, Continuities and Change" by Sohela Nazneed, Naomi Hossain & Maheen Sultan. IDS Working Paper 368, International Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, 2011 and BDI Working Paper No.3

- "Pahari Media: Bastobota abong Atmonirman" by Sahida Khondakar & Anmona Priodarshini. BDI Working Paper No.4, 2011

- "Does Paid Work Provide a Pathway to Women's Empowerment? Empirical Findings from Bangladesh" by Simeen Mahmud, Lead Researcher, BRAC Development Institute (BDI) with Naila Kabeer and Sakiba Tasneem. IDS Working Paper 375, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, Brighton, 2011 and BDI Working Paper No.5

- "Mobilizing Support and Negotiating Change: Women's Organizations Building Constituencies in Bangladesh" by Sohela Nazneen and Maheen Sultan. BDI Working Paper No.6, 2011

- "Mobilizing for Women's Rights and The Role of Resources-Synthesis Report-Bangladesh-2011," published in February 2011

- "Talking Citizenship: Knowledge, Communication and Influence in Bangladesh" by Simeen Mahmud and Lopita Huq in Participation and Governance, Vol 4, No.1-January 2011, PRIA, India

- Bangladesh Microfinance Review by Sanjay Sinha, M-CRIL, BRAC Development Institute, 2011

- "Justification of Intimate Partner Violence in Rural Bangladesh: What Survey Questions Fail to Capture" in Studies in Family Planning, 42:1, pp. 21-28, March 2011

- "New Pathways for the Poorest: The Graduation Model form BRAC" by Hashemi, S.M., CSP Research Report, January 2011

- "And Who Listens to the Poorest?" by Huda, K., Kaur, S., & Lamhauge, N., August 2011

Book Publications

- "Ogni O Jal" edited by Shamim Azad, February 2011, published by Mowla Brothers

- "Nari'r Khomotaion: Paribortoner Gatipath," collection of research papers by Pathways of Women Empowerment Research Programme Consortium, BDI. March 2011

Research Briefs

- "Mobilizing at the Grassroots" Issue 04, April 2011: this research brief is based on the findings of the research project titled "Deepening democracy, building citizenship and promoting participation," which was undertaken in 2007.

Participation at Seminars/Workshops/ Trainings/Conferences

- Conference on Faith-based organizing

A conference organized by Berkeley Centre at the Georgetown University and co-sponsored by BDI was held at the Westin Hotel on 10 January, 2011. From BDI, Maheen Sultan, Sohela Nazneen, Mirza Hassan and Samia Huq participated in this invitation-only conference. At the event, participants discussed what is meant by faith-based organizing and elaborated their role in development.

- Annual Global Network of MDP Programs Summit

Professor Syed M. Hashemi and Dr. Ferdous Jahan attended the Third Annual Global Network

of MDP Programs Summit in Costa Rica from 22 - 25 February, 2011. The summit was held to consolidate the shared MDP vision throughout the Global Network of MDP programmes.

- Third Global Graduation Meeting

The Third Global Graduating Meeting, which was organized by BDI along with CGAP and the Ford Foundation, took place in Paris on March 24-25, 2011. The Meeting was attended by Professor Syed M. Hashemi.

- International Conference on Impact of External Funding on Women's Rights Related Work

Maheen Sultan and Sohela Nazneen presented the Bangladesh country study at an international conference organized jointly by the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Amsterdam and the Pathways Programme in Amsterdam. The conference was held from 21-22 March, 2011.

- Workshop on the Regional Centers for Social Development

The workshop on the social development was organized and hosted by the Social Development Department of the World Bank and held from April 25-26, 2011 in Washington, D.C. Dr. Ferdous Jahan, Academic Coordinator, BDI, Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University and Professor Syed M. Hashemi, Director, BDI were present at the workshop. The workshop aimed to facilitate cross-regional learning among institutions in different countries in Asia, Africa and South America. The institutions that work on capacity building for social development, including such topics as land acquisition, resettlement and social impact assessment were invited in the workshop. The BRAC University presented the MLARR courses offered and related policy advocacy activities.

- Workshop titled "Women's Agency and Law: Perspectives from the Nordic and the Global South"

Sohela Nazneen presented a paper on the Movement for a Uniform Family Code in Bangladesh at this workshop. The workshop was held from May 30- 31, 2011 at Helsinki Collegium of Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki.

- Participation in a workshop on Measuring Gender Equality

Sohela Nazneen participated in the workshop on Measuring Gender Equality, organized by Gender at Work and IDS in the UK in May 2011. This brought in academics and activists working on gender equality measurement tools and processes, particularly organizational and institutional change, both in the Global South and Northern countries.

- Inception meeting of the Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID), a Research Programme Consortium

The inception meeting of ESID was held in New Delhi and coordinated by University of Manchester and funded by DFID. Mirza Hassan, Simeen Mahmud and Sohela Nazneen were present at the meeting. Simeen Mahmud and Sohela Nazneen presented a paper on the Gendered Politics of Securing Inclusive Development. Mirza Hassan presented the Bangladesh country paper on political settlements.

- Participation at the World Justice Forum III

The World Justice Forum III held from June 20-23, 2011 in Barcelona, Spain, gathered leaders from more than 100 countries. Mirza Hassan from BDI presented on justice sector in Bangladesh at the forum.

- Participation in Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Conference

The two-day long biennial international conference of the Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society (IACSS) was held from December 17-18, 2011 at BRAC University. Presentations were made by Sahida Khondaker, Samia Rahim, Sohela Nazneen, Samia Huq and Perween Hasan in various sessions based on the research conducted under the Pathways programme. A documentary produced by Lead Researcher, Mirza Hassan, was screened at the conference. Also, Lopita Huq presented a paper based on the research work of the Citizenship programme.

- DSA-EADI 2011 Conference

The EADI-DSA joint conference took place in York, UK from 19-22 September, 2011. This is

the 13th EADI general conference held in cooperation with the Development Studies Association (DSA). The conference aimed to be one convening space to fundamentally revisit and rethink the development paradigm(s) in all its dimensions in an era of plurality, uncertainty and change. Mirza Hassan, from BDI presented a paper on the Bangladesh Paradox at the conference.

Centre for Languages (CfL)

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

Centre for Languages (CfL)



CfL family

CfL overview:

Since its inception in 2005, the Centre for Languages (CfL) of BRAC University has been working with the goal to assist students in developing the language skills they need to become successful in graduate schools and in their professional lives. CfL is active in the field of language teaching, and the primary goal of the centre is to assist students in developing their language skills, so that they are successful in their academic, professional and personal lives. CfL provides learner-centered, interactive and proficiency based courses. In addition to the university classes, CfL provides professional courses at the local, national and international levels. Besides English language, other foreign language courses are also offered to both the university students and the professionals.

CfL in collaboration:

BRAC-CfL Collaboration



Cfl faculty Golam Jamil is presenting in front of distinguished guests

On 3rd April 2011, BRAC Education Programme (BEP) launched two interactive educational CDs for General Science and General Mathematics for the secondary schools of Bangladesh. Mr Md. Golam Jamil, a faculty member of the Centre for Languages (CfL), talked on the 'Prospects of Incorporating Technology in Education in Bangladesh' at the occasion of the lunching programme. He elaborately discussed on how CfL is contributing to the education sector of Bangladesh by initiating some unique projects to reach the greater community. In this regard, he mentioned about CfL's engagement with BRAC in developing and reviewing the Computer Aided Learning (CAL) materials of English for the students. The speaker, along with Ms. Mahmuda Yasmin Shaila, another faculty member of CfL, is developing CAL English materials jointly with the BRAC Education Programme. Among the distinguished guests were Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, the Founder and Chairperson of BRAC, Dr. Mahabub Hossain, the Executive Director of BRAC, Lady Sayeda Sarwat Abed, the Director of CfL and Prof Noman Ur Rashid, the Director General, Department of Secondary and Higher Secondary.

CfL offers free language courses for under privileged students

As a part of its vision, CfL always support students beyond the academics. CfL offers free language courses to the underprivileged meritorious students to ensure their academic progress and a better future. In the year 2011

CfL offered free courses to a total of 17 (seventeen) students of different foreign language courses. Among them 7 were the students of Chinese language, 4 were of French language and 10 others were from Korean language.

Synergy with SEL

As a part of the synergy between BRAC and BRAC University, CfL is working together with BRAC Learning Division to develop a training module on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). The purpose of the proposed module is to infuse SEL in all professional layers of BRAC and BRAC University. This collaboration has been brought into account following an initial meeting chaired by Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed on 17 July 2011. Deputy Program Coordinator and in-charge of Learning Division, BRAC, Mr. Abdur Rahman was also present there. Speakers in the meeting talked about the importance and the process of incorporating SEL towards creating a sound work and learning environment in the respective institutions. Later, a core group of facilitators was formed including two faculty members of CfL to help develop SEL materials and implement those further.

Social and Emotional Learning with CfL and BRAC

A team of facilitators from American Institutes of Research (AIR) conducted a "Training of Trainers" workshop on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) for BRAC during 12-16, June 2011 with 29 participants from selected BRAC programs and two University faculty members named Ms. Syeda Farzana and Md. Moshiur Rahman from Centre for Languages (CfL), BRACU participating in it. The major objective of this workshop was to have SEL competencies among the participants who would help instill it on the entire work environment in BRAC and BRAC University. The workshop ended with understanding the basic working criterion of Social & Emotional Learning and with a strong desire among the participants to implement its learning in their everyday work. In the closing reflection, the participants demonstrated their readiness to implement it through an action plan, which was to develop a three-day module along with relevant tools/exercise materials based on their cultural context.

MoU between CfL and KOICA

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) of the Republic of Korea and the Centre for Languages, BRAC University signed



The Signing of the MoU between Director, CfL, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed and Resident Representative of KOICA, Bangladesh, Lee Jung-Wook

a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 15th September, 2011. The MoU desires to promote bilateral exchanges by providing KOICA volunteers (as Korean native instructors) with opportunities for learning, training and gaining practical experiences with Bangladeshi learners. Accordingly, the two parties will work to promote Korean language education and Korean culture among the students of BRAC University in Bangladesh. Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director, CfL of BRAC University and Lee Jung-Wook, Resident Representative of KOICA, Bangladesh signed the MoU on behalf of the respective organizations

King Sejong Institute and CfL Signed an Agreement

CfL of BRAC University and King Sejong Institute (KSI) of Korea have signed an agreement under which the latter will provide CfL with a number of teachers of Korean Language with a view to teach Korean language to Bangladeshi learners. This language program will not only include regular students, teachers and professionals but also the Bangladeshi workers who intend to work in Korean organizations. Accordingly, three teachers have already been appointed and the program is already in operation since November 2011.

It is worth mentioning here that King Sejong Institute is a brand name that the Korean government launched in order to provide Korean learners and teachers with the comprehensive, integrated study information service. KSI has been working in many Eastern, Middle Eastern and North American countries. However this is the first time KSI is working with a Bangladeshi institute.

Launching Ceremony of King Sejong Institute, Dhaka

The Centre for Languages of BRAC University, and the HRD Korea launched the King Sejong Institute, Dhaka on 7 December, 2011 with the vision of preparing Bangladeshis with Korean language, that would enable them obtaining a wide range of opportunity to attain scholarships and work in different countries, especially in Korea, which has been a friend to Bangladesh for a long time.

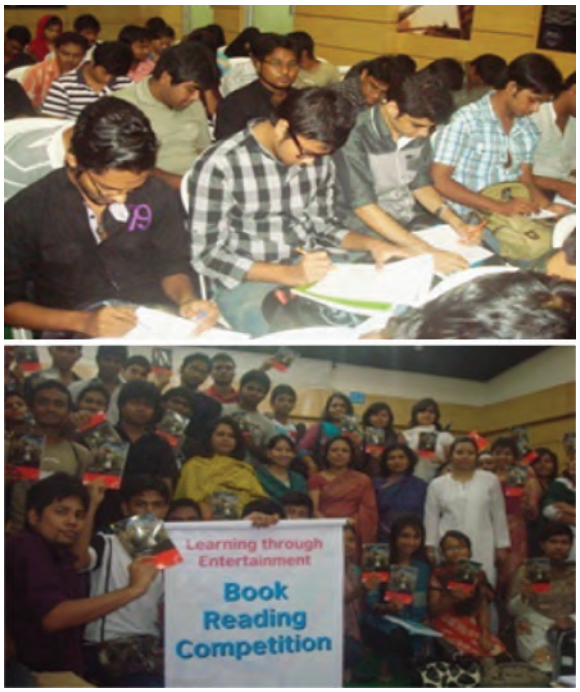


Korean Ambassador, H.E Mr. Taiyoung Cho is addressing the audience in the launching ceremony of King Sejong Institute

Korean Ambassador, H. E. Taiyoung Cho and BRAC University Pro-Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir inaugurated the institute. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC University, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, the Director of King Sejong Institute and Centre for Languages, BRAC University, Kyung Sik Lim, Director General of Foreign Workshop Bureau, HRD Korea, BRAC University teachers, officers, students and journalists were present on the occasion.

The prime objective of this institute is to provide a high standard, well-designed course of Korean language and culture, which includes internationally standardized textbooks and multimedia aids. It is worth mentioning that King Sejong Institute is the first Korean Language and Cultural institute that has affiliation with an institution of higher education in Bangladesh. CfL, BRAC University is running the institute with the direct support of the Korean Embassy, Dhaka. This collaboration would further strengthen the bond of friendship shared by Bangladesh and Korea.

CfL Collaborates with British Council to Run a Book Reading Program



BRACU students with CfL and British Council representatives in the competition

Centre for Languages, BRAC University, has collaborated with British Council to run a Book Reading Competition in the Fall-2011 Semester. The orientation program was conducted on 19th September, 2011 by Sarwat Masuda Reza, the Resource Centre Manager, British Council, with the assistance of the CfL faculty members. The program intends to enhance the reading habit of the students, and in doing so to improvise on the four skills in English. During the orientation, Ms. Masuda Reza conducted a minor assessment activity for the students. Each student was provided with a membership card so that s/he can borrow and return books further. However, the students were evaluated on their reading of the texts throughout the whole semester and was awarded with certificates and attractive prizes, at the end of the semester from British Council. Especially, the prizes include free English Language classes at British Council for the highest scorer and free membership of the Resource Centre in British Council for the next five best scorers.

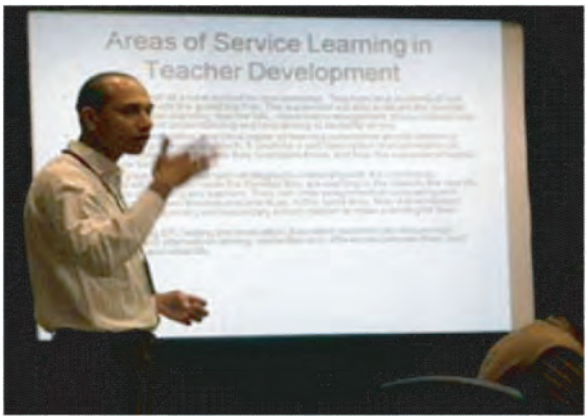
Besides, the Reading Program was also launched for the students of the Residential Semester, Savar. The orientation was conducted by Ms. Liza Reshmin, Senior Lecturer of CfL in presence of Ms. Sarwat Masuda Reza and Ms. Eliza from British Council.

CfL faculty research and presentations:

Faculty attends BELTA Conference in Rajshahi

A national ELT conference was organized from 7-8th January, 2011 by BELTA and University of Rajshahi titled 'Sustaining Innovation in English Language Education'. Mr. Aminul Islam, Lecturer, CfL, conducted a workshop at the conference titled 'Visualizing Language in the Class." The workshop aimed to demonstrate different techniques and executive procedures that can be applied in a regular English class by teachers to utilize students' language skill and communicative behavior within their class time.

Three CfL Faculty Members Present Papers in International Conference in Hyderabad, India



CfL faculty member, Mr. Sanjoy Banerjee, Ms Sadia Nasrin Banerjee and Ms Tahreen Ahmed presented papers at the International conference organized by the English Language Teachers' Association of India and IATEFL, held in Hyderabad from 22 to 24 January 2011. The theme of the conference was "Starting, Stimulating and Sustaining English Language Teacher Education and Development". Mr. Banerjee had an interactive talk on "Service Learning in English Language Teacher Education: South Asian Perspective", and Ms Banerjee conducted a workshop on "TESOL Programmes in Asia: Creating Room for Critical Thinking Instructions". Ms. Ahmed presented a paper titled "Bangladeshi Secondary School Teachers: Conceptions of CLT and their Classroom Practices".

Effat Hyder from CfL attended TESOL Convention in USA

Effat Hyder, a faculty member of CfL presented a paper at the 45th Annual TESOL Convention in USA and the Exhibit organized by TESOL from 16th to 19th March 2011 in New Orleans, USA. She attended several workshops and academic sessions.



CfL faculty members attended NELTA Conference in Nepal



CfL faculty members and fellows at the NELTA Conference in Nepal

Nine faculty members from the Centre for Languages (CfL) participated in the 16th International NELTA Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal from February 18 to February 20, 2011. The theme of the conference was 'English in Multilingual and Cross-cultural Context: Exploring Opportunities and Meeting Challenges'. Following the thematic trajectory of the conference, members of this delegation successfully presented various research papers and conducted workshops for the international participants. The presenters and their papers in the NELTA conference are as follows-

Presenters' name	Title of the research work
Ms. Liza Reshmin	Introducing Critical Thinking in EFL Classrooms in English Medium Universities of Bangladesh
Mahmuda Yasmin Shaila and Pankaj Paul	Integrating Literature into the EFL Classroom
Samina Nasrin Chowdhury	Hearing the Voice of the Learners
Sanjoy Banerjee	Learner Autonomy in Multi-cultural EFL Classrooms: Probabilities and Prospects
Sadia Nasrin Banerjee	Read, Write and Think in Multi-Cultural Context
Tahmina Anwar	Contextual Teaching and Learning Practices in the Theoretical Courses for TESOL
Edward Leffew and Quazi Mosiur Rahman	Critical Thinking for Academic Success
Sunjida Afrin Khan	Implication of Power in the Language Education Policy of Bangladesh.

CfL at BELTA International Conference

Ten faculty members of CfL, BRAC University presented a number of papers at the 5th BELTA International Conference held in the BIAM Foundation, Dhaka from 20 May to 22 May 2011. Trainers, policy makers, administrators, textbooks/materials writers, researchers, educationists of English Language Teaching/ Learning/ Testing/ Administration also took part in the conference. There were presentations on the following topics by CfL members: *Preparing Students for University Success, Using Error Analysis as Feedback in Teaching Writing, Panel Debate on Classroom-based Innovation in ELT- how do we do it?, Affective Factors in English language teaching for Professionals, Challenges and Opportunities of Developing Newspaper-based Teaching Materials, Critical Thinking for Academic Success, and Exploring 'fun' in 'Language Play' for Adult Learners.* The aforementioned papers were presented respectively by Mahmuda Yasmin and BethTrudell, Mahfujul Alom Masum, Ivan Shafaat Bari, Syeda Farzana, Mohammad Aminul Islam, Quazi Mosiur Rahman, Edward Leffew, Golam Jamil and Roxana Ahmad Chowdhury.

CfL organized various other programs:

A preparatory course for BRAC-Rai Foundation Scholarship recipients



Participants of the program

Ten female students of BRAC-Rai Foundation Scholarship-2011 received a preparatory course from CfL, BRAC University under Medhabikash of BRAC Education Programme (BEP) before leaving for India for further studies.

The content of this course was designed to raise awareness and adaptability for multicultural dynamics with core emphasis on academic writing and presentation skills. Actually, this two week course was a glimpse of what the scholarship recipients would experience in India. Ms. Samina Nasrin Chowdhury, a senior faculty member of CfL supervised the course with an active cooperation from the Director, CfL, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed.

David Graddol's Lecture at BRAC University



Director, CfL, VC, BRACU and David Graddol are addressing the audience

On May 23, 2011 BRAC University Centre for Languages (CfL) and British Council jointly hosted an important discussion on the future of English at higher education in Bangladesh at the conference room of the university building. Representatives from UGC (University Grant Commission), EiA (English in Action), and different public and private universities expressed their valued opinions in the discussion. David Graddol, an expert on global issues in English, provided a foundation for the discussion. He shared his findings on English language level required in the job market worldwide. With this information in mind, the educators discussed English language needs for employment, study and international collaboration in various groups.

Staging drama at DevPro Centre



The participants of BEP Teacher Training program staged four short dramas in English on July 5, at Devpro Centre, Gulshan. Since this activity was a part of their course, the participants themselves wrote the scripts, directed and performed the act, accordingly. A team of faculty members from CfL helped the trainee teachers in this regard. The dramas were titled Life of Fuli, The Rights of Physically Challenged Children, Say No to Superstition and Women in Negligence.



BEP Teacher Training program participants are performing in the drama at Dev Pro

A similar program was also arranged on July 28 at DevPro Centre while four other dramas, Fake Pir, Stop Torture on Housemaids, Fatwabaz and Problems of Large Family were performed. The names of the plays suggest that they were designed to focus on various socio-cultural issues of Bangladesh. Thus, the performances served double purposes; one is that demonstrates the speaking skill of the participants and the other is that it encourages them to be active in bringing positive changes in the society.

CfL organizes Design for Change projects

Participants of the Design for Change project

On August 18, 2011, CfL successfully organized different projects as part of Design for Change (DfC), a global movement intended to give children an opportunity to express their own ideas for a better world and put them into action. The Bangladesh chapter of this global movement





of social change is unique in the sense that for the first time it is being implemented on the university students. As a part of the "enhancement classes" of the pre-university students, different projects were organized at the university. Following the motto "I Can", Pre University students worked on different projects. The whole process went through four stages Feel, Imagine, Do, and Share. Accordingly, the learners identified various social problems, came up with innovative solutions, designed the work plans and implemented those to bring better changes and, finally, presented their projects. Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University was present as the chief guest in the presentation programme. The program started with a welcome speech by Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed while Professor Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University and Ms. Anjana Anand, the chief facilitator of Design for Change (DfC) in Bangladesh were present in the program to encourage these young learners.

Certificate Award Ceremony for the professionals at Devpro



Participants after successful completion of the course

A week long BRAC Primary Teacher Training Program ended with a certificate awarding ceremony at BRAC Devpro Conference Room on 29 September, 2011. As the second intake for the year 2011, this program continued at four different venues- Bogra, Comilla, Faridpur and Dhaka. The Director, CfL was present at the ceremony and distributed certificates among the participants who exhibited satisfactory performance throughout the training. At present around two hundred BRAC primary teachers are under this training program.

A picnic: CfL at Sripur targeting teambuilding

Centre for Languages arranged a picnic for the faculty members on 25 November, 2011. The venue of the gathering was Abed Centre, a wonderful resort at Sripur under Gazipur







CfL team building

District. Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed piloted the team. Members took part in various activities designed for amusement and enjoyed traditional foods along with some traditional cakes. The picnic inspired the faculty members with enthusiasm and communal feelings.

"Pecha Kucha"Event





Centre for Languages, BRAC University organized an interesting session titled Pecha Kucha event on 12 December 2011. It was conducted by Roxana Ahmad Chowdhury along with Golam Kader Zilany, faculty members of CfL. To illustrate, Pecha Kucha draws its name from the Japanese term meaning chit chat. It was a presentation devised by Asfrid Klein and Mark Dytham architects, in Tokyo. It is a methodology in which twenty slides are shown, each slide for twenty seconds where people can put their thoughts, share ideas, works and finally form a network. Presently, Pecha Kucha is happening in more than two hundred cities around the world.

CfL organizes Community Service Program

CfL successfully accomplished Community Service Program for the semester, Spring 2011. Being a member of BRAC University is not a privilege but a responsibility. This belief has convinced CfL to initiate a community service program- CfL to Community (CtC) by involving the learners. The vision of the program is to create a sensitive generation who will be willing to take responsibilities and work for the wellbeing of the society.

To rationalize the vision, university students worked for the improvement of the lives of underprivileged children in terms of literacy, hygiene, nutrition, recreation and other factors. First, students were divided in groups to collect disadvantaged children from the nearby areas and conducted sessions on the aforementioned issues. Moreover, as part of the program students were introduced to the systems and dynamics of BRAC Primary schooling at Karail slum area of the Mohakhali vicinity. Observing these kids, the students of BRAC University were highly inspired and realized their responsibilities. Palash, a student working in this program, said, "We were virtually confined within the so called sophisticated cages in the apartments, from where this real world is invisible. We had not been given the scope to understand with close tie and empathetic feelings about these children who deserve to have all amenities as human beings. Now we feel ourselves responsible to work for them." In fact, these words reflected the realization of the youths who visited BRAC schools at Karail.





CfL in community service

Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)

Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)

Since its inception, BRAC University has conducted a series of cross-sectoral research on climate change and disaster management in direct collaboration with BRAC. To coordinate and manage these different activities, the Syndicate and the Board of Trustees of BRAC University accorded for establishment of a research centre titled "Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research" (C3ER). The Centre aims to establish a synergy between the University and BRAC in the field of climate change and other environmental issues.

C3ER believes in delivering better solutions for building a climate resilient society, and takes pride in reaffirming its commitment to the most vulnerable communities at the grass-root level.

C3ER's goals are to be the leading research and academic institute for environmental and climate change research, and to provide the highest quality education and training, for both the youth and professionals. Our ultimate goal is to strengthen the capacity of the community, in order to make their lives and livelihoods sustainable.

The environment and possible future environmental changes have wide ranging repercussions on various sectors, including human health, well-being, and the economy. As such, C3ER takes a holistic approach to climate change and environmental research, focusing on physical science, adaptation and mitigation measures. C3ER works by bringing different organizations and institutions together, and by establishing a connection between BRAC and BRAC University.

C3ER will also maintain partnerships with other national and international organizations as appropriate. Resources and expertise available in the departments, schools and institutes of the university have been mobilized in the fields pertinent to adaptation and mitigation.

Special attention has been given to research adverse impacts of climate change in the areas of health, food security, poverty and livelihoods, displacement and migration, loss and damage assessment, renewable energy, the negotiation process, technology transfer, education and awareness, and etc.

In addition to this, C3ER has already arranged a number of trainings and public lectures on climate change and disaster management, in association with other departments of BRAC University.

The working domain of C3ER includes (but is not limited to):

- Understanding the physical science of climate change, and the generation of climate change scenarios for Bangladesh at the local level
- Sea level rise and storm surge modeling for coastal zone protection against sea level rise and storm surges
- Bio-physical modeling for assessing the impact of climate change on the environment
- Integrated adaptation planning and environmentally sound infrastructure design
- Economics of adaptation to climate change and investment needs identification
- Mitigation through emission reduction with particular focus on renewable energy options
- Comprehensive disaster management in a changing climate
- Application of bio-technological research at the field level for the development of climate resilient cropping system
- Community based adaptation and awareness raising at the local level
- Education curricula development for students, as well as for the training of local people, civil society and professionals
- Climate induced migration, including population dynamics, displacement, and gender issues
- Natural resource management to prevent degradation and promote preservation of ecologically critical areas
- Water supply and sanitation, pollution

In order to understand the dynamic nature of climate change and environmental degradation, C3ER has built up a multidisciplinary team with engineers, environmental researchers, policy analysts, and social scientists, led by Professor Ainun Nishat, Chairperson of C3ER and Vice Chancellor of BRAC University. C3ER functions partly as a hub and brings various organizations together to collaborate on research projects. With its full-time and part-time researchers, C3ER is able to research the issues related to climate change and the environment in a holistic and integrated manner.

Student Affairs

Student Affairs

BRAC University's mission is to achieve excellence in all-rounded education. The components of all-rounded education, i.e., learning, development and identity formation are interactive and add to each other. The students can experience all of these through participating in co-curricular activities along with regular studies. University's Student Affairs (SA) provides full support in this respect by supervising activities of student clubs and forums.

Clubs and Forums

The co-curricular arena of the university is quite vibrant and student-oriented. The composition of each club or forum includes teacher/staff advisors and student representatives. Enrolment of members is done during the club fair held each semester. The Director of the Student Affairs supervises the activities with the help of an assistant director and a student affairs officer. A multiuse hall, two eighty-seat lecture halls, cafeteria and a planted semi-outdoor space with technical support are used for seminars, workshop, exhibitions, indoor games, competitions, fairs and cultural activities. The BRACU residential campus in Savar provides a play field for outdoor games. The facilities of BRAC throughout the country such as training centers with dormitories, transport and guides are available for tours and other events.

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

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

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

There are 39 student clubs and forums in different categories of:

- Arts/ Cultures
- Social welfare/ Community services
- International
- Entrepreneurial
- Subject related
- Sports
- Science

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

Major activities of clubs and forums include:

- Club Fair
- Job Fair
- Film Show
- Cricket, Football and Indoor Games
- Trade Fair
- Voluntary Blood Donation Campaign
- Community Volunteer Work
- Art, Photography and Hobby Exhibition
- Seminar and workshop
- Competitions in Art, Debate, Music, Photography, Film
- Celebration of National and International events such as Pohela Boishakh, International Mother Language day, Independence day, Victory Day.
- Business plan, Computer programming, Photography.
- Newsletter
- National and Regional Festivals
- Study Tour
- Annual Drama
- Archives
- Annual Cultural Program
- Research
- Concert
- Help Group/Help Sessions

BRAC University

BRAC University (BRACU) celebrated its journey of 10 glorious years at its Mohakhali campus on 23rd July 2011, says a press release. It was a complete festival with various activities organised by the students. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRACU was present as the chief guest in the inaugural ceremony. The daylong festival went on with fun activities like movie show, stage drama, games etc. A rally was conducted in Mohakhali; its 'biggest' attraction was an elephant as a participant. A nice part of the day was a session with the university alumni.

The joyful festival ended with the blast of fireworks. Media & Journalism Forum BRACU facilitated the media coverage.

JOB Fair 2011

'Robi JOB INCUBATOR, 2011', a matter of pride for BRAC University as it was the first job fair on the premises of BRAC University that took place on 26th and 27th October, 2011. The event was organized by BRAC University Business Club (BIZ BEE) and sponsored by Robi Axiata Ltd.

The fair was inaugurated at approximately 11:30 am on the 26th of October by Mr. Matiul Islam Nowshad, Head of Human Resources of Robi Axiata LTD; Prof. Zainab Faruqui Ali, Head of Student Affairs; Prof. Mamun Rashid, Director of BRAC Business School; Jabir Al Mursalin, Faculty of BBS as well as Advisor of BIZ BEE. All partaking companies were facilitated to set up stalls free of cost, complementary lunch and telecast of their advertisement throughout the duration of the fair. 19 companies took part in the 'Robi JOB INCUBATOR, 2011'.

ROBI Axiata LTD had the biggest stall in the fair that received extremely satisfying response. Limited openings were available for part time employment. Finance majors were preferred for full time post of executives and officers. Internship opportunities were also given. The registration process was fully online based. Transcom Mobile LTD gave the opportunity for graduates to apply for the positions of Officer/Senior Officer at Sales, Trade Marketing and SCM division. Probashi Palli Group had openings for the position of part time sales officer (24 SBUs and direct recruitment) and for future vacancies and full time job opportunities. Purbachal BestWay City was present on first day only with openings for full time Executives (Marketing and accounting majors), Part Time for Customer Care and Internship opportunities.MCL Hotline BD LTD received very high response. Openings were mostly part time jobs for current students, training charge for inexperienced recruits costing 10000/- , no training needed for experienced ones. They accepted both online registration and hard copy of CV for recruitment. They also had opportunities for full time recruits. Crown Cement provided Internship opportunities for Marketing and HR graduates and full time employment opportunities. BRAC Bank had internship opportunities and full time openings for EEE and CSE graduates besides BBA graduates in branch banking and customer service. NCC Bank Limited had internship opportunities and openings for masters graduate in entry level jobs such as Assistant officers, or MTO's. CEMEX Cement required experienced BBA/MBA graduates in areas of sales, operations, planning, and coordination. Internships were provided as well. Aarong was present with openings for sales associates. They were looking for undergraduates in human resources, marketing and finance. For full time employment was available in corporate & other upper level positions (designers, retail management, export and administration) for BBA graduates. ICE Media was looking for Assistant editors for their magazine, applicable for anyone with good writing skills. FORETHOUGHT PR, the peer partner/sister concern of Asiatic, was looking for executives as well as senior executive officers, full time. Couture CFTM had opportunities for graduates to work full time in various posts such as Garments, technologists, knit technologists & fashion designers. Eminent securities ltd was looking for finance & marketing students from senior executives up to officer level post. BanglaCAT was looking for CSE / EEE students mostly since the tasks involve technical aspects mostly. Alpha consultancy was looking for counselors and assistant managers. The openings were for full time employment and for graduates

only. Trust Bank participated on a trial basis. They voiced plans to go for campus recruitments in the future looking for full time employments.

In addition to all of the above, Career Counseling booths were also set up, conducted by Robi to advise students on the type of positions suited for them, selection of majors and any other kind of queries they may have had.

The event ended up with the praising ceremony. Ishfaq Ilahi Chowdhury, Register of BRAC University gave crest to the participants. All the participated companies thanked the volunteers who helped them in the entire period. The best 10 volunteers were honored by giving award.

The Vice President of NCC Bank was very pleased with the hospitality of the volunteers. Sharmin Sultan, Manager of Marketing and Operation Division in Robi Axiata Ltd said that, she was very astonished to see that the members of BIZ BEE arranged the Job fair in such a short time. She also said, whenever BRAC needs Robi, they will be always there to support BRAC University. Ishfaq Ilahi Chowdhury thanked Robi Axiata Ltd for their support and also thanked the members of BIZ BEE for arranging a wonderful event.

Annual Activity Summary 2011-2012

SL No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
1.	Adventure Club	**Summer**	
		a) HumHum Jhorna	21/07/2011
		b) Step to Glee	22/06/2011
		c) Adventure Movie Fest	24/05/2011
		Fall	
		d) Step to Glee	01/12/2011
		e) HumHum Jhorna 2	
		f) Seminar	1/12/2011
		g) Tourism Fair	
		Spring	
		h) Fresher Orientation	20/02/2012
		i) Climate Change	03/04/2012
2.	ART SOCIETY	Summer	8/07/2011
		a) T-shirt Design Competition	19/06/2011
		b) ART Exhibition	26/05/2011
		c) ART Competition	
		Fall	15/10/2011
		d) Art Competition & Orientation	21/11/2011
		e) Mehedi Utshab	06/02/2012
		Spring	20/03/2012
		f) Fresher Orientation	05/04/2012
		g) Mehedi Utshob	
		h) Short Tour	
3.	BRAC University Club with BRAC	**Spring**	02/02/2012
		a) Fresher Orientation	
4.	BIZ BEE Summer		8/6/2011
		a) Face 2 Face	13/7/2011
		b) Study Tour	30/6/2011
		c) VISION	
		Fall	
		d) Face 2 Face	
		e) Job Fair	26/11/2011
		f) Short Tour To Milk Vita Factory	25/11/2011
		g) Fire Chol Matir Tanee	20/11/2011
		h) Macro Economics Challenge in Bangladesh	30/11/2011
		Spring	
		i) Face 2 Face	08/02/2012
		j) Writing Business Articles	08/03/2012

5.	BOOK CLUB	k) VISION 3 **Summer** a) Inaugurate The BRACU Book Club **Fall** b) Meet The Writer c) Fresher Orientation **Spring** a) Fresher Orientation b) Workshop (writing)	01/03/2012 31/7/2011 4/10/2011 15/10/2011 23/02/2012 20/03/2012
6.	COMPUTER CLUB	**Summer** a) Penguin Mela 2011 b) Gaming Contest c) Workshop on Web Development d) Workshop on Linux Operating System e) Randy Pausch's f) Fresher Orientation **Fall** g) Technical Seminar h) Inter University Computer Programming i) Programming Contest 2010 j) Phpxperts Seminar 2010 k) Gaming Contest **Spring** l) Club Fair m) Intra University Programming Contest n) Fresher Orientation o) Seminar on MS Talks	 20/7/2011 28/07/2011 05/07/2011 14/7/2011 13/07/2011 20/06/2011 26/09/2010 16/10/2010 23/10/2010 06/11/2010 27/11/2011 26/01/2012 10/03/2012 15/02/2011 08/02/2012
7.	CULTURAL CLUB	**Summer** a) Rhythm Revive b) Jolsha c) Workshop on Classical Music d) Participating on cultural competition organized by BUET	 10/06/2011 16/7/2011 29/05/2011 21/10/2011

		Fall	
		e) Rhythm Revive	23/10/2011
		f) Jolsha	17/10/2011
		g) 150 Years Celebration Rabindranath	29/11/2011
		Spring	
		h) Rhythm Revive	28/01/2012
		i) Jolsha	21/03/2012
		j) Cultural Program	22/03/2012
8.	COMMUNICATION And LANGUAGE CLUB	**Spring**	
		a) Fresher Orientation	06/02/2012
		b) Seminar on Sign Language	25/03/2012
9.	COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB	**Spring**	
		a)Raising Fund	16/01/2012
10.	CRICKET CLUB	**Summer**	
		a) Friendly Match	30/07/2011
		Fall	
		b) Inter University Cricket Championship	29/10/2010
		c) ULAB Fair Play Registration	12/01/2011
		Spring	
		d) Jege Utho Shadhinotar Dake	26/03/2012
11.	DEBATING CLUB	**Summer**	
		a) NSU Asian British Parliamentary Debate	3/08/2011
		b) WUDC-2012	21/06/2011
12.	DRAMA CLUB	**Summer**	
		a) Adda	04/07/2011
		b) Dramatic	26/07/2011
		c) Induction	04/06/2011
		Fall	
		d) Induction	30/09/2011
		e) Dramatic	01/12/2011
		f) Adda	27/11/2011
		g) Annual Drama	4/12/2011
		Spring	
		h) Induction	01/02/2012
		i) Drama Organization	16/03/2012
		j) Dramatic	01/04/2012

13.	ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT FORUM	**Summer**	
		a) Fresher Orientation	06/06/2011
		b) Regional Integration: South Asian	21/07/2011
		Fall	
		c) Orientation Program	20/10/2010
		d) Meet The Entrepreneur	29/11/2010
14.	ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS CLUB	**Summer**	
		a) Technical Tour in ISP	24/07/2011
		b) Intra University Electroquest	24/07/2010
		c) Inter University Electroquest	01/08/2010
		Fall	
		d) Reflection Program	11/10/2010
		Spring	
		e) Reflection Program	09/02/2012
		f) Workshop on Microcontroller	20/03/2012
		g) Robotic Exibition	08/04/2012
15.	FILM CLUB	**Summer**	
		a) BUFC Premier	13/7/2011
		b) Kothopokothon	06/06/2011
		c) Introview	28/05/2011
		Fall	
		d) Intro view	23/10/2011
		e) Indira Gandhi Cultural Center	20/10/2011
		f) Bufc Premier	19/10/2011
		g) Film Screening On Kaalbela	28/10/2011
		h) Meet The Maestors	17/11/2011
		i) South Asian Film Festival	21/11/2011
		j) Da Circle	02/12/2010
		Spring	
		k) Editorial	20/01/2012
		a) Fresher Orientation	04/02/2012
		l) Movie show	04/03/2012
		m) Movie show	22/03/2012
		n) Movie Festival	21/03/2012
		o) Da Circle	29/03/2012
16.	FOOTBALL CLUB	**Fall**	
		a) Inter University Football Tournament	-
		Spring	
		b) Intra University Football Tournament	02/03/2012
		c) Intra Semester Football Tournament	30/03/2012

17.	GLOBAL AFFAIRS FORUM	**Summer** b) Fresher Orientation **Fall** c) Orientation Program **Spring** d) Fresher Orientation	 07/06/2011 17/10/2011 13/02/2012
18.	HERITAGE FORUM	**Summer** a) Study Tour b) Fresher Orientation **Fall** c) Fresher Orientation d) Cartoon Competition e) Study Tour to Manikgonj **Spring** f) Share n Express g) International Mothers Language Day h) National Independence Day i) Pitha Utshob j) Ahoban	 13/07/2011 14/06/2011 23/10/2011 16/11/2011 21/10/2011 15/02/2012 21/02/2012 26/03/2012 22/01/2012 07/02/2012
19.	HOUSE of VOLUNTEERS	**Summer** a) Orientation **Fall** b) 7 Habits Workshop **Spring** c) Environmental Development of Bangladesh d) Lake Clean Up	 3/12/2011 11/02/2011 25/03/2011
20.	INDOOR GAMES CLUB	**Summer** a) Intra University TT Tournament b) Annual TT Tournament **Fall** c) Annual Carom Tournament **Spring** d) Badminton Tournament e) Billiard Tournament	 24/05/2010 22/07/2010 28/11/2010 29/02/2012 24/03/2012
21.	LAW CLUB	**Summer** a) Fresher Orientation **Fall** b) Munsigonj District Judge Court Visit **Spring** c) Kolkata High Court Visit	 18/7/2011 17/11/2011 18/01/2012

22.	MEDIA & JOURNALISM FORUM	**Summer** a) Study Tour b) Voice c) Inauguration of MJFBU **Fall** d) Fresher Orientation	 07/06/2011 17/10/2011 13/02/2012
23.	MONON	**Summer** a) Blood Donation **Fall**	 13/07/2011 14/06/2011
		b) Orientation c) Self Confidence Workshop **Spring** d) Fresher Orientation	 23/10/2011 16/11/2011 21/10/2011
24.	MOOT COURT SOCIETY	**Summer** a) Discussion Session **Fall**	 15/02/2012 21/02/2012
		b) Celebreting 2 Years of The Moot Court Society **Spring** c) Abar 71	26/03/2012 22/01/2012 07/02/2012
25.	NATURAL SCIENCE CLUB	**Summer** a) Orientation & Documentary show **Fall** b) Seminar	 3/12/2011
26.	oikos DHAKA Summer	a) Fresher Orientation b) 4 Day Style Carnival **Fall** c) Text Book Donation Program d) Fresher Orientation **Spring** e) Fresher Orientation	11/02/2011 25/03/2011 24/05/2010 22/07/2010 28/11/2010
27.	PHARMA SOCIETY	**Fall** a) AIDS Awarness Program **Spring** f) Fresher Orientationb)	 29/02/2012 24/03/2012
28. 29.	PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB PERECONS	**Fall** a) Photography Exhibition b) Photography Fest Exhibition **Fall** a) Basketball Tournament	18/7/2011 17/11/2011 18/01/2012



International Mother Language Day organized by Heritage Forum





Residential Semester

Residential Semester

The Residential Semester (RS) at BRAC University is a unique experience in university education in Bangladesh. All students are required to attend the Residential Semester. The first semester will be held in Mohakhali main Campus. The second semester students must attend the Residential Semester in Savar Campus. The two main goals of this short but intensive program are to develop the leadership skills of the students, so that they will be competent, ethical and enlightened leaders relevant to the development of Bangladesh and to improve their communication skills especially, in English. The layout of the semester design is based on a study that was done by a group of educational experts. The compulsory courses for RS include English, Bangladesh Studies and Ethics & Culture. Through various exercise and activities, the students develop leadership qualities as well as the ability to live and function together as a group.

Course Integration:

One of the major focuses of RS is to maintain integration between courses and activities. Among the many forms of integration strategy, one is offering a number of Experiential Learning Activities (ELA) in the form of in and off learning activities in support of classroom activities. These steps allow students to actively participate and take learning by doing it. Also, individual course and inter course reflection meetings are being held every week where the teachers share experiences of various courses and make plan of course integration for the next week. Apart from that, individual course readings and lesson plans are available for all course teachers to maintain unity and integration between course objectives. Cross class visit, another form of integration strategy, is also done which helps teachers to understand better the scopes and process of integration. Along with that, synthesis of course learning is made to observe the action of learning in the practical life to develop students' critical thinking process.

Objective of the RS:

- Develop Communicative English skills.
- Develop Ethical leadership potentials.
- Understanding Community living and Social responsibility.
- Respect Cultural Diversity.
- Know the country: prospects and constrains.

Semester Orientation:

Each semester starts with a daylong orientation program for the students of RS at Markuli hall. The sessions are jointly facilitated by Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC of BRACU and Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, Campus Superintendent of Savar Campus, Ms Farrah Jabeen, Sr. Lecturer, CfL where all the staff and teachers of Savar Campus introduce themselves to the students. Course teachers of three courses of RS (Bangladesh Studies, Ethics and English) give short briefings about their courses. In a session students work in groups to develop the "Social Capital" as campus norms which they will believe in, promote and practice during their stay in Savar.









Students Mix of 2011 (Spring, Summer and Fall semester):

Since 2003, a total of 500 students have completed RS. However, in 2011 alone 770 students came for RS in Savar Campus.

Program	Male	Female	Total
Spring	125	90	215
Summer	150	130	280
Fall	172	103	275
Total	447	323	770

Experiential Learning Activities (ELA):

To push the students to come up, speak out and flourish his/her hidden talents, RS offers and organizes, different extra curricular activities at Savar Campus. The following lists of activities were offered in 2011 so that students can sign up in at least one activity along with their regular course studies. Whatever activities the students are involved in, they communicate in English with each other, working in groups and nurturing their dormant talent. List of E LA includes:

- Wall magazine
- Chinese Language course
- Know the Country and Culture
- Debate
- Quiz
- Spelling Bee competition
- Creative Writing
- Drama
- Happy Reading Competition
- Design for Change
- Photography Exibition
- Movies & Documentaries
- Social learning lab
- Organization visit
- Theater

Campus Activities:

- Sports
- Cultural activities
- Leadership building exercises
- Observing historical days
- Seminar and workshops

Know the Country & Culture

Student come to know about some selected countries in terms of their culture, climate, society, life style, values in the society and cross-cultural knowledge.





Drama

Students act on stage different social issues/problems they have learned from course work.

Debate

The activity aims to develop debating skill. Students participate and argue about various topics.

Quiz

Students develop their general knowledge on various issues. Sometimes course instructor gives them certain topics and arranges quiz competition on those issues.

Spelling Bee

The aim of the activity is to enrich students' stock of the vocabulary.

Wall Magazine

Students divide in groups, come up with their collected write-ups, photographs and cartoons which are edited by the group members. The collected materials are cross checked by the other group members and then displayed on Wall Magazine.

Creative Writing

Creative writing means anything where the point is to convey thoughts, feelings and emotions rather than to simply convey information. It mainly focuses on creative fiction such as short stories and novels, poetry, (auto) biography and creative non-fiction.

Chinese Language

Learning a new language is always more than fun. Chinese language has been offered in all semesters in 2011. Korean language was offered in Fall semester only.

Design for change

Design for Change is one of the biggest global movements designed to give participants an opportunity to express their own ideas for a better world and turn them into an action. Children and adults learn through Design for Change that "I Can" is the two most powerful words in the world. Design for Change activity has pushed students to do four very simple things which are: Imagine, then Feel, then Share and then Do it finally to ch ange the world.

Movie and Documentaries

Watching movies and documentaries are always great sources of entertainment along with learning something new. Movies and documentaries have the great ability to influence our lives in many ways. Students watch movies and documentaries related to their learning.

In Fall and Spring 2011 semester two very special events were organized namely: "Walking through the Memory Lane" and "Showcasing the New Horizon".

Walking through the Memory Lane

"Walking through the Memory Lane" a program on the reflection of residential semester activity of BRAC University was held on 30th March, 2011, at BRAC CDM auditorium in Savar. This program was organized by the students and the

faculty members of residential campus and CfL of BRAC University to showcase the activities. Parents were invited to see these activities of their children. Students sang a song named "RS potro" in a style of rural "puthi paat." The welcome speech of Director CfL, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed was read out by Campus Superintendent. The whole program was presented in a news presentation style where two of the RS students acted as the news presenters. In his inaugural speech, Pro Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir explained the activities of residential semester and their implications.

Showcasing the New Horizon

On 29th November, 2011 "Showcasing the New Horizon" was held at BRAC CDM auditorium in Savar campus. The purpose of the program was to refresh the memories of various activities of residential semester. It was organized by the students with the help of staff and faculty members of residential campus and CfL of BRAC University to display the activities, experiences and learning they derived with joy and fun during the residential semester. Invited parents of the students as well as invited guests were pleased to see the creative talent of students. Pro VC Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir inaugurated the program. Mr. Asif Saleh, Director, Communications of BRAC was present as Chief Guest. Director CfL, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed gave the closing speech.

Seminar/ Workshop: Following seminar/ workshops were organized in 2011 in RS

Seminar on Drug Abuse

Seminars on drug abuse were held in each semester. The seminars were moderated by Brother Ronald Drahozal, CSC, director of APON (Ashokti Punarbashan Nibash).He explained how APON is working to provide drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation services and make those services available and accessible to the drug addicts. In each seminar, drug addicts who recovered with the help of APON came and shared their stories.



BRAC Orientation

Sessions on BRAC was held at Markuli Hall of Savar Campus. Mr. Abdur Rahman, Senior Faculty Member from BRAC Learning Division facilitated the session. A documentary on BRAC named "New Horizon" was screened which introduced BRAC comprehensibly within twenty one minutes. Mr Rhman then showed a picture of Sir Abed and mentioned that how a man's vision can bring about a revolutionary change in Bangladesh and in many other countries of the world. During the question-answer session, the Campus Super, along with the speaker of the session, also took part and clarified some drafts of the students.

BRAC Program Orientation

Resource persons from various programs of BRAC came to the session. They gave a short but comprehensive briefing about their respective programs. The students asked many question about their specific program during the question-answer session and prepared a check list with the help of the resource person so that they can collect most of the information they need. The Campus Super, along with the speaker of the session, also took part and clarified some questions of the students. The Director of CfL was present on the program orientation and took interest to visit the sessions.

A Session on Grooming & Etiquette

The session was facilitated by three faculty members of CfL, Ms. Farrah Jabeen, Mr. Kazi Mafizur Rahman and Mr. Ashik Sarwar. The session was participatory in nature and the discussion mainly focused on students'

appropriate manners in public places, dinning etiquettes and proper way of living in a community. The session encouraged students to be concerned about their self-esteem to create a positive learning environment, boost up their confidence and maintain social etiquettes. Mr. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, the Campus Superintendent, concluded the session by inviting students to follow an appropriate way of living in the society.

Meet the Cultural Personality

Dr. Mridul Kanti Chakrabarty, eminent singer and Professor of Music and Theatre Department, University of Dhaka gave a lecture on evolutionary process of Bangla Music. Dr. Chakrabarty and other singers rendered Bangla songs and captivated the students. In another session prominent cultural personalities Md. Mohiuzzaman Chowdhury Moyna and Chaya Karmakar entertained students with songs from 'Charyapada',' Padabali',' Kirton angik', 'Pancha Kabi' and modern phases. The students were very enthusiastic and spontaneous.

An Evening with a Freedom Fighter

An experience sharing evening was arranged by Bangladesh Studies course where renowned Freedom Fighter Major (Retd.) Quamrul Hassan Bhuiyan shared his experiences in the battle field during the Liberation War with the new generation. He talked about the role of women in The Liberation War, how the people of Bangladesh were motivated to take part in the war, the role of the sector commanders etc. Students and the other audience were spellbound by the tales of the Freedom Fighters in his own voice. During the question-answer session students raised many critical questions. The speaker was impressed to see the depth of their questions, patriotism and emotions and response.

Five Decades of Development

Professor Syed M Hashemi, Director of BRAC Development Institute and Acting Chairperson of ESS department, BRAC University, talked on the development of Bangladesh since independence. The purpose of this session was to expose students to the achievements that Bangladesh has had since it started its journey as an independent nation.

Meet the Employers

The session, hosted by Mr. Rehan Ahmed and attended by top HR Personalities of Bangladesh focused on making students aware of and updated about the necessary preparation they ought to make for employment once they graduate.

Public Health Seminar

The session was facilitated by the faculty members from School of Public Health (SPH), BRAC University. The first session on 'Health and Wellbeing' was conducted by Dr. Nasima Selim from SPH and it was attended by all students. After that female students only attended the session of 'Reproductive Health and Rights' separately. It was interesting to observe that students asked lot of important questions freely regarding the subject. Male students attended a separate session with Professor Dr Malabika Sarker from SPH.

Apart from above mentioned activities and seminar/workshops, in RS 2011, following on and off campus events were arranged for all RS students.

Social Learning Lab

The Social Learning Lab programs were arranged in all semesters in Savar campus. About ninety students, at a time, took part in handling the responsibilities of the whole RS campus officials in all sectors: the Administration, the laborer, the laundry, the kitchen, security, cleaning, and dinning staff. Each lab was followed by a presentation sharing their feelings, learning and ethical development that resulted from this unique exercise. On the following day, students presented their reflection in groups categorized by the sector they participated in. The presentation consisted of their feelings, the lesson learned and ethical development that took place among them. The Social Learning Lab of Residential Semester (RS) is a unique experience of university education in BRAC University. Incorporated within the Ethics and Culture course, this activity helps students get an exposure to a different set of activities that they hardly face in their regular life. Moreover, it helps develop their leadership skills with moral values, which is one of the main goals of this semester.

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English Week

A week long program on "English Week" was observed in all semesters to reinforce English Practice in the campus. Every day various language games took place such as Story telling with apple pass, Back to the board, Unscramble, NO YES/NO, Read if You Can, Stop the Bus and Treasure Hunt in order to boost up English speaking. In addition, during the week students participated in various competitions namely poster campaign, spelling Bee, public speaking, Announcing, cartoon, writing, Drama, Muppet show, talent show and debate. English Week leaves a permanent impact on students and they feel more at home while speaking in English later on.

Moral Day Celebrated at Savar Campus

This special program and activities recognize students' good deed and behavior. The day includes displaying virtue cards on a tree shaped board, exhibition of morality related pictures and cartoons, articles (paper searching on current issues), ethical talk show and the presentation of documentaries on moral issues. Moreover, the day was also referred to as a Key Virtue Day and No Lie Day. The activity was followed by a show of a popular theatre titled "Digonto Surjo" performed, on a stage built in Duranto field, by BRAC popular theatre group from Bogra. The content of the show included good governance, ideal citizenship, ethical and moral values. Popular Theater is one of the many effective and cost efficient ways through which BRAC disseminates important information on various social issues to the grass root communities. The Moral Day is an experiential learning activity of Ethics and Culture course which seeks to promote standardized values through behavior demonstration that focuses on leading a rational life.

Museum Visits

As part of Bangladesh Studies (DEV101), RS students had visited Bangladesh Muktijoddho Jadughar (Liberation War Museum) and APON (Addiction Rehabilitation Center). Students visited different galleries of the museums and took part in a quiz competition organized by Liberation War Museum. Six students were awarded prizes. Course Instructor of Bangladesh Studies and the staff of RS accompanied the students during the visit.

BRAC Visit

RS students went on BRAC Project visits. The students were divided into seven sub groups. They were assigned one program to look into and later to submit a report or to give a presentation. The programs were BRAC Micro-Credit Program, BRAC Health Program, BRAC Education Program, Legal and Human Rights Program, BRAC enterprise, Wash Program and BRAC Social development program.

Parents Day

Parents' day at Savar campus was observed in all semesters. Parents came to visit the campus and spend their time with their children. All the staff and faculty members were present on that day and accompanied many parents. Our honorable Vice chancellor also visited and talked to some of the parents during the day.

RS Drama

"Socrateser Jobanbondi" a drama was staged by Drishwapat theater group. Mr. Ahammad Ullah, Lecturer, Ethics & Culturer, explained the objective of staging this drama and the relation of it with ethics course. Most of the Students along with faculty members, staff of BRACU, BRAC and BRAC trainees enjoyed the show to the fullest. At the end of the drama the course teacher invited some students to share their reflection about the drama and some of them shared their positive reflection.

Ekushey February

In line with the spirit of Amar Ekushey, students observed Shaheed Day and International Mother Language Day. Students and Staff of BRACU took part in Probhat Ferry (Morning Procession) and placed floral wreaths at the Shaheed Minar on February 21, 2011.

Career Services Office

Career Services Office

The mission of Career Services Office (CSO) is to provide efficient, effective, and personalized services to BRACU students, alumni, and employers. Our purpose is to enhance the abilities and confidence of students and new graduates by creating and delivering innovative career development, job search and experiential education support.

Currently, CSO works with hundreds of organizations ranging from Multinational Companies to small and medium-sized businesses and nonprofit organizations. With the help of our professional staff, these organizations can select from a pool of highly qualified students and alumni who annually use the Career Services Office to fill their employment needs.
Our different programs, activities, and resource enhancement are as follows:

Orientation for Different Program

The Career Services Office provides orientations for the different programs, offered for the students. The presentations and programs thoroughly focus on the roles and activities that are being performed by the CSO in order to facilitate a student to be valuable and compete in the job market as they graduate in their own discipline of studies. Presentation topics highlighted are how CSO provides no-cost training, job placement services and other job-hunting resources.

Individual Counseling:

Students and alumni complete intake forms to request various topics and subject for discussion during counseling.

Appointment Topics

- Resume Review
- Cover Letter Review
- Networking
- Internship
- Interviewing
- Job Search
- Career/Major Evaluation

Seminar and Workshop:

UNITOUR - BRAC University

Prothomalo-jobs, along with CSO organized a seminar on 18 January, 2011 about careers of the 21st century and importance of language. The event's learning partner was BBC Janala and the event was sponsored by Robi Axiata. Mr. Monjurul Alam, Sr. HR manager of Eastern Bank Limited and Mr. Mehraj Hamid, Head HR of Apollo Hospital was the guest speakers of this event. An hour long special session was conducted by BBC Janala's brand ambassador actor, model and singer Rafiath Rashid Mithila with Md. Haris, sales and distribution BBC World Service Trust.



Freshers Orientation, Spring 2011



Seminar by Prothomalo-jobs - UNITOUR - BRAC University

Informational seminar on higher education in Canada

CSO and Canadian University Application Centre (CUAC) jointly organized informational seminar on higher education in Canada on 21 November, 2011 at BRAC Business School Conference room. Mr. Dani Zaretsky (Chief Ideas officer -CUAC) opened the session and discussed all that has to be done by a student in order to secure an admission in the Canadian Universities.



Seminar on Higher Education in Canada

UNIQLO Career Seminar

UNIQLO, a Japanese casual-clothing chain owned by the Fast Retailing Company Ltd, jointly organized a seminar on October 15, 2011 at the Indoor Auditorium of BRAC University. Around 100 students of the final semester from BBS Department attended the program. Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU attended the seminar as chief guest. Ms. Ismat Shereen, Head Relationship Management Office delivered the welcome address and explained the role of Career Services Office. Mr. Yoichi Takanashi, Human Resources, Recruiting and Training of UNIQLO introduced all the team members from the company and started his presentation by explaining the background, objectives, vision and employment opportunities at UNIQLO.

Inter University Competition "BizMaestros" by Unilever Bangladesh Limited

Unilever Bangladesh Limited (UBL) and BRAC University Career Services Office (CSO) jointly organized a corporate presentation on September 19, 2011 at the Indoor Auditorium of BRAC University. The program was launched by Tanvira Choudhury, the Leadership Development Manager, Unilever Bangladesh Limited. In her presentation, Tanvira Choudhury explained the background, objectives, vision and employment opportunities of Unilever Bangladesh Limited.

Rahimafrooz initiated the "Norm Group" for BBS students

Rahimafrooz, one of the most successful business house in the country, makes a large number of recruitment every year. As a part of their recruitment process and to select the talented fresh graduates they have introduce the "Norm Group" formation. Among many used recruitment tools the Ability Test is a significant one, which is recognized as the single best method of predicting job success. The formed group by Rahimafrooz will be kept in their priority list, when the turn comes for recruitment. To roll the process, Rahimafrooz selected BRAC University to create 'Norm Group' from the BBA program. The test took place on April 12, 2011 at UB 0124 with the support of BRAC University Career Services Office. 53 students attended the test for Rahimafrooz Bangladesh Ltd.

Network:

CSO has a very user-friendly website provider and database manager to collect and disseminate job, internship and recruiting information for students and alumni also have the option of storing resumes and establishing and electronic web-based portfolio in a convenient and accessible website.

CSO organized the first signing ceremony with Robi

As Robi plans to sign internship agreement with the leading universities as part of its campus branding and activation program, Career Services Office, has organized the first signing ceremony at BRACU campus. Matiul Islam Nowshad, Chief Human Resources Officer of Robi and Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury Registrar of BRACU inked the agreement on February 06, 2011. Speaking on the occasion, Matiul Islam Nowshad, Chief Human Resources Officer of

Robi said, "This initiative will give the young talents the opportunity to have the first glimpse of corporate world. Robi is taking all possible steps to develop its next line of leadership and this internship program is part of that."

Robi will offer different types of internships for undergraduate students to enhance employability in the corporate world. The company also believes that internship opportunity in Robi will give the students necessary tools and preparation to function in the sphere of multinational organizations. The interns will get opportunity to work within their field of study.

Recruiting Activities:
Our recruiting program offers students a chance for applying for jobs and internships having their portfolio reviewed attend company presentations and interview with a network of professionals.

The Internship Recruitment Session by Unilever
An Internship Recruitment Session was held on June 19, 2011 at BRACU. The program was jointly organized by Unilever Bangladesh and BRAC University Career Services Office (CSO). The purpose of the program was to select Interns from BU for the company. Around 100 students from BBS participated in the program.



Internship Recruitment Session by Unilever Bangladesh Limited

On-Campus Interview by Navana Petroleum Limited

The on-campus interview was organized by Career Services Office for Navana Petroleum Ltd on 10 March, 2011 at BRACU. For their MTO recruitment out of 7 students interviewed, one candidate was selected.

Job Placement Mock Interview Session at BRAC University

BRAC University (BRACU) organized a mock interview session at the university campus on Saturday, 30 July, 2011. This program aimed at students who are in their final semesters and preparing for getting internship in their subject relevant companies. Interviews were taken by 22 officials from leading companies like: Grameen Phone, Airtel, Tech One Global Ltd, British America Tobacco, Standard Chartered Bank, BRAC Bank, Square Pharmaceuticals, Incepta Pharmaceuticals, etc participated in the event. A total of 130 students have participated in the event for assessment. The program was highly appreciated by the interviewer as well as the students.



PSDP Job Placement Mock Interview Session Summer 2011

Certificate Training Program:

Professional Skill Development Program (PSDP): Professional Skill Development Program (PSDP) is designed to improve office skills so that employment and self-development opportunities increase. In order to respond to employers' increasingly diverse and sophisticated needs we provide effective training programs for specific purposes. Professional Skill Development Program (PSDP) has been designed in order to develop specific areas of expertise, and also to enhance our students' skills and quality as required in today's job market.

This course (PSDP) is divided in the following modules:
a) Identify their technical and interpersonal skills and their importance in the twenty-first century.
b) Understand the importance of business etiquette in today's work environment.

Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP) Assessment Fall 2010

The final assessment of Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP), arranged by CSO was held on January 08, 2011. The assessments were conducted by the leading resource persons, representing local and multinational companies, banks and NGO's.



PSDP Orientation Summer 2011

Applied Microsoft Excel Training (AMET)

Advanced Excel Training is aimed to make our students better in optimizing MS Excel in their day to day work to create reports, analyze data, generate graphs & charts, build simple forecasts, manage budgets, manage books of accounts, and work with multiple workbooks CSO inaugurated the AMET Program on June 16, 2011. This was the 4th AMET program since summer 2010. Dr. Md. Khalilur Rhaman, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), BRACU was the key speaker of the session. A total of 80 students showed their interest to attend the Training Program. Considering the number of students two sections had been formed for this semester.



AMET Orientation Summer 2011

Internship & Job Placement:

Internship Placement Highlights of BBA, 2011: Internship program is a supervised attachment with an organization for twelve weeks which is compulsory for the BBA students. BBA students earn 4 credits for undertaking an internship (BUS 400) program.

Table 2: Sector-wise Internship Placement

Table 1: Internship Placement, 2011

Placed by	Number	Percentage
CSO	142	70%
Self	62	30%
Total	204	100%

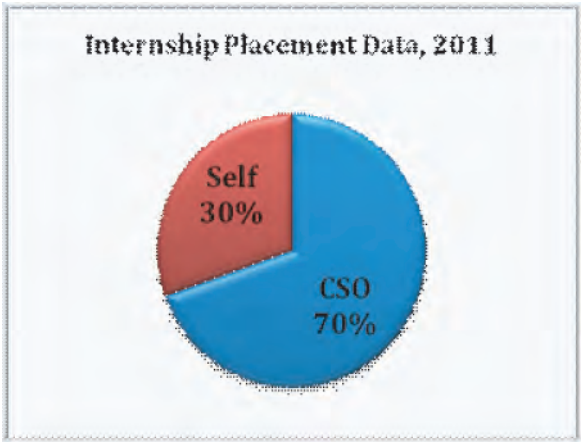
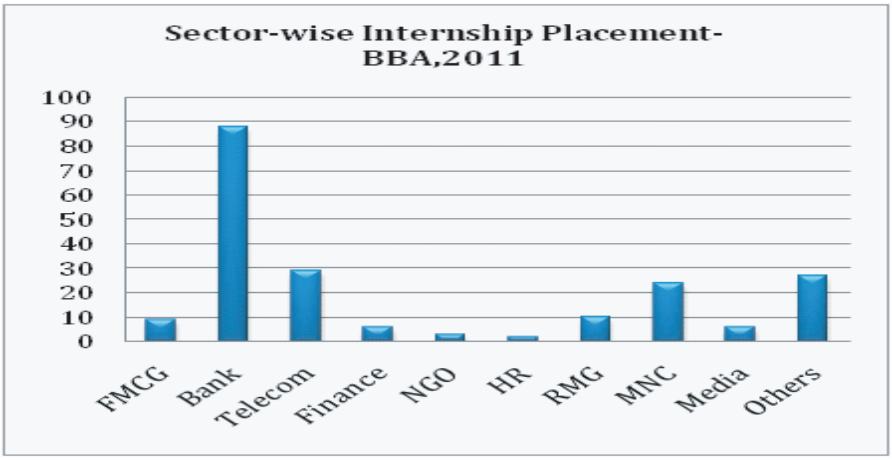


Table 2: Sector-wise Internship Placement

Sector	Number	Percentage
FMCG	9	4%
Bank	88	43%
Telecom	29	14%
Finance	6	3%
NGO	3	2%
HR	2	1%
RMG	10	5%
MNC	24	12%
Media	6	3%
Others	27	13%
Total	204	100%

Table 3: Full Time Employment Data (Undergraduate), 2011



Job Placement Update, 2011:

In this year 2011 from the various departments of undergraduate program, about 68% of students are employed in different sectors; the rate of higher study has increased this year with respect to the last year's data and it is 7% of the undergraduate students, whereas about 20% students arestill looking for placements since they have just been graduated in December 2011. As per past employment trend we hope them to be placed within the next three to four months time.

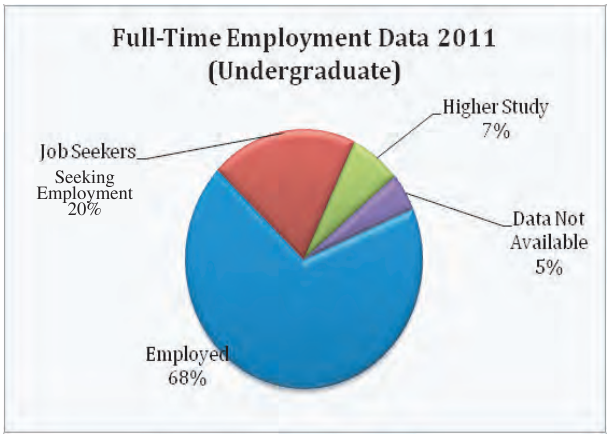


Figure 10: Full time Employment Data for Undergraduates, 2011

Degree	Total Graduates	Employed		Seeking Employment		Higher Study		Data Not	
Availab	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
BBA	184	142	77%	28	15%	10	5%	4	3%
ECE	41	28	69%	9	21%	2	5%	2	3%
ARC	28	13	46%	6	21%	4	14%	5	17%
CS	4	2	50%	1	25%	1	25%	0	0%
CSE	9	6	67%	2	22%	1	11%	0	0%
ENH	15	10	67%	3	20%	2	13%	0	0%
LLB	18	8	45%	6	33%	3	16%	1	6%
ESS	24	14	59%	6	25%	2	8%	2	8%
EEE	65	42	65%	17	26%	2	3%	4	6%
PHY	2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Average	390	267	68%	78	20%	27	7%	18	5%

Undergraduate Employment Data (Department wise), 2011

Bachelors of Business Administration

Table 4: Sector wise Employment Data (BBA)

Sector	Number of Students
FMCG	27
Bank	62
Telecom	9
Airline	1
Finance	2
NGO	2
HR	3
Others	36
Total	142

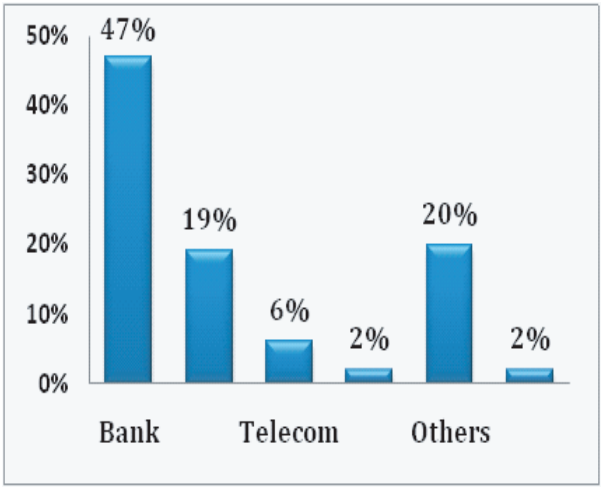


Figure 11: Sector wise Employment Data (BBA), 2011

BSc. In Economics and Social Science

Table 5: Sector wise Employment Data (ESS)

Sector	Number of Students
Media	2
Manufacturing	2
Education	4
NGO	2
Telecom	1
Others	3

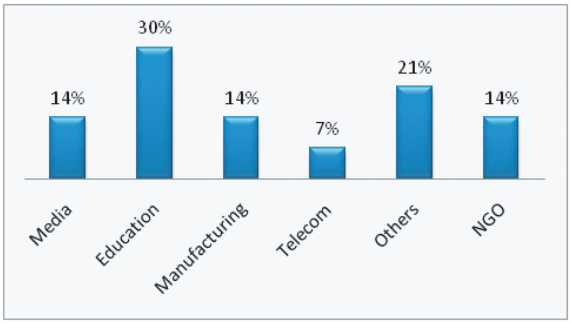


Figure 12: Sector wise Employment Data (ESS), 2011

BSc in Architecture

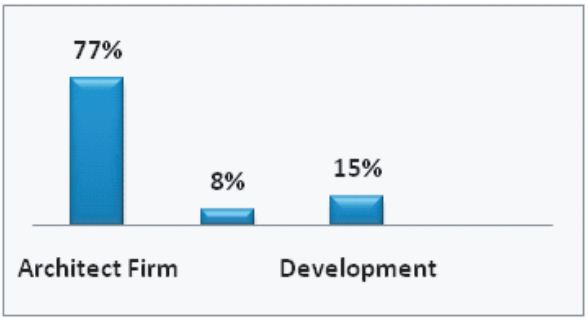


Figure 13: Sector wise Employment Data (ARC), 2011

Table 6: Sector wise Employment Data (ARC)

Sector	Number of Students
Architect Firm	10
NGO	4
Development	3

BA in English

Table 7: Sector wise Employment Data (ENH)

Sector	Number of Students
Media	2
Education	6
Telecom	1
Others	1

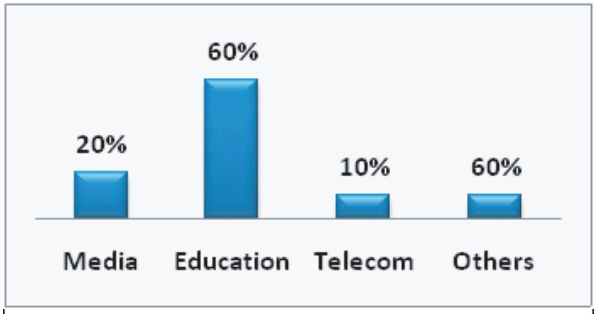


Figure 14: Sector wise Employment Data (ENH), 2011

BSc in Computer Science (CS) and BSc in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

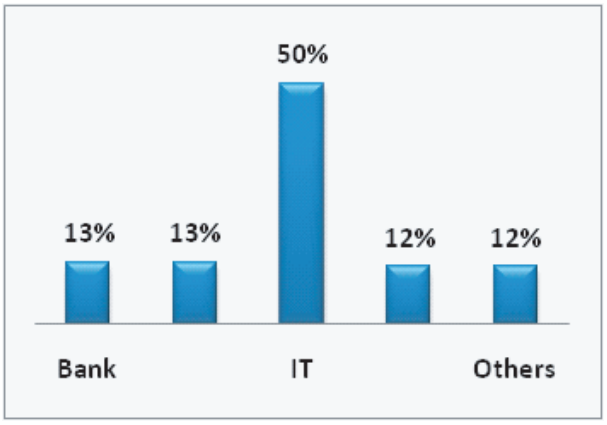


Figure 15: Sector wise Employment Data (CS & CSE), 2011

Table 8: Sector wise Employment Data CS & CSE

Sector	Number of Students
Bank	1
Education	1
IT	4
Consultancy	1
Others	1

BSc in Electric and Communication Engineering

Table 9: Sector wise Employment Data (ECE)

Sector	Number of Students
Telecom	8
Education	8
IT	5
Bank	1
Manufacturing	2
Logistic	1
Others	3

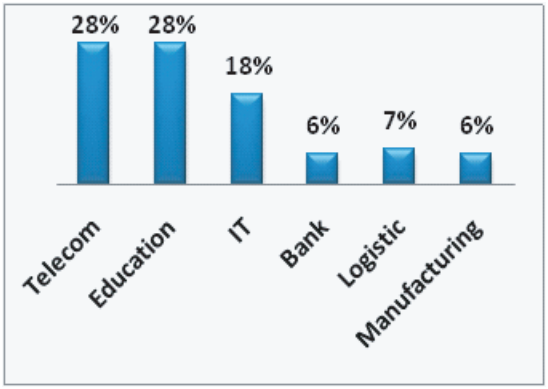


Figure 16: Sector wise Employment Data (ECE), 2011

BSc in Electric and Electronic Engineering

Table 10: Sector wise Employment Data (EEE)

Sector	Number of Students
Airlines	1
Education	10
IT	20
Power Generation	3
Development	7
Others	1

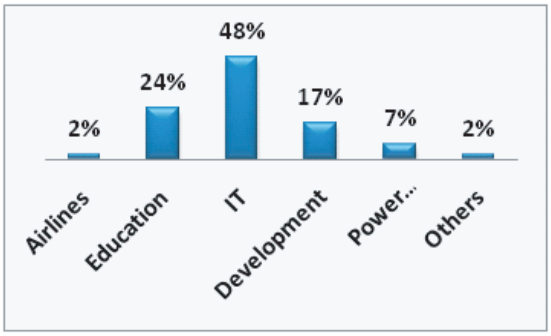


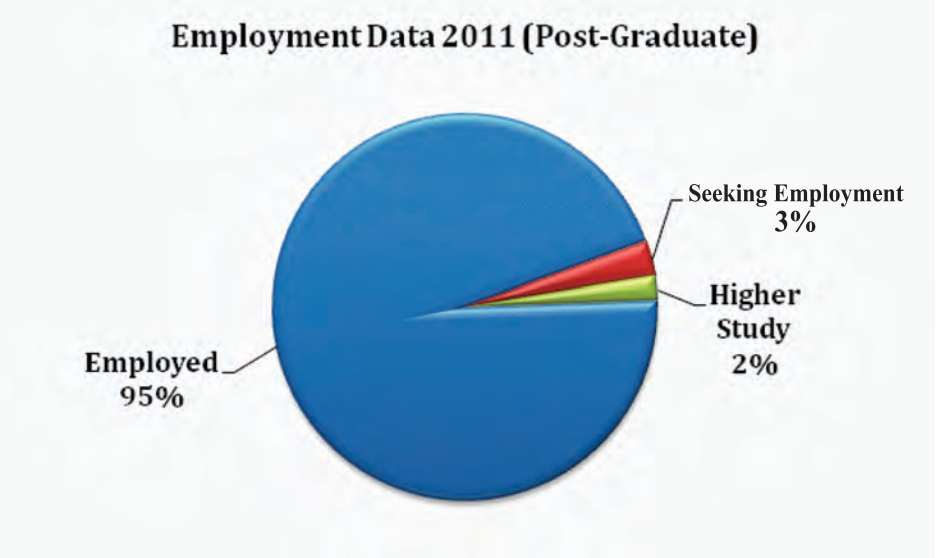
Figure 17: Sector wise Employment Data (EEE), 2011

Post -Graduate Employment Data, 2011

According to the data availed from respective departments it reflects that overall employment is almost 100% of the post-graduate. One of the significant reasons observed is that a large number of the proportion has been already employed before they even started the post-graduation. However, in year 2011 the employment rate is very high in compared to the previous years.

Degree	Total Graduates	Employed		Job Seekers		Higher Study	
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%
MBA	67	61	91%	6	9%	0	0%
IED	43	40	93%	0	0%	3	7%
MDS	23	23	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MPH	36	36	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MSC	8	8	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MSAE	2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MAENG	17	17	100%	0	0%	0	0%
PGDMA	12	12	100%	0	0%	0	0%
DMS	7	5	72%	0	0%	2	28%
Average	215	204	95%	6	3%	5	2%

Figure 18: Employment Data, 2011 (Post-Graduate)



Teaching and Learning Center (TLC)

Teaching and Learning Center (TLC)

The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) is an arm of BRAC University dedicated to promote excellence in teaching at tertiary levels and enhance student learning inside and outside the classroom. Effective teaching requires not only transferring information on subject matter, it demands a process of interactive teaching and learning which can ensure effective student learning. BRAC University introduced the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) in 2006 with the mission to persistently support and empowers the faculty of the University, to enhance their capacity in pedagogic development and to provide emotional support to both students and faculty with the provision of counseling. Psycho-Social Counseling unit is a wing of TLC which provides counseling support, primarily to the students. But their services are also open to BRACU staff and faculty members.

Mission of TLC

The mission of Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) is to provide continuous support to the faculty members of BRAC University and hone their teaching skills, enhance their instructional efficiency and academic achievement and also provide social counseling support to both students and faculty.

Vision of TLC

Establishing a culture of learning community to influence measurable effectiveness in teaching, scholarly activities, and promoting innovation in teaching and learning.

Major Activities of Teaching and Learning Center

- Organizing workshops on Teaching and Learning at BRACU at the beginning of each semester for the newly recruited faculty members.
- Organizing follow-up workshops for the faculty members who have attended TLC workshops previously.
- Identifying, documenting and advocating for the best teaching practices.
- Organizing an active TLC Forum through which the faculty members can engage in conversation that will promote a learning community in the university.
- Developing a resource base on books, reading materials, videos on teaching and learning styles for faculty development at the TLC website.
- Managing and regularly updating the TLC web-sites.
- Collaborating with other national and international academic institutions which also emphasize quality teaching and enhanced learning.
- Developing a Core Facilitation Team (CFT) in BRACU and giving them opportunity to develop their professional training skills by attending workshops and trainings from time to time.
- Publishing a quarterly TLC news letter.
- Supporting professional skills development trainings for the staff of BRACU.
- Providing assistance in course designing and facilitating sessions on Ethics and Culture during Residential Semester.
- Facilitating the process of creating synergy between BRAC and BRACU.
- Organizing field visits for "Learning from BRAC Field Programs" for the faculty members.
- Organizing TLC Yoga and Meditation Circle (TYMC) for keeping body, mind, heart and spirit together for the faculty members and staff of BRACU.

Activities of Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) in 2011:

- **Workshops on "Teaching and Learning at BRAC University" for the new instructors/ faculty of BRACU:**



The TLC Workshops on Teaching and Learning at BRAC University for the newly recruited faculty of BRACU were held in the three semester breaks in 2011. The workshops were held during January 03-06(3rd TLC; No. of participants=41), May 02-05 (4th TLC; No. of

participants=22) and during September 05-08(5th TLC; No. of participants=34), 2011 at BRACU Savar campus. These workshops were designed as an extended orientation program for the Faculty members where they had the wide scope to know the activities of BRAC University and could have a clear perception about the synergy between BRAC and BRAC U.

The workshop focused on to explore BRACU as a Teaching -Learning Laboratory both for the faculty and the students. The workshop added extra values with the sessions on Counseling (both academic and personal) from BRACU Counseling Unit.

The workshops were facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Ms. Farida Akhter. Md. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Prof. Mumit Khan, Prof. Fuad H. Mallick, Ms. Beth Trudel, Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Md. Shawkat Kamal, Ms. Liza Reshmin and Mr. Golam Jamil. A visit of Vice Chancellor Prof. Ainun Nishat and sharing his insightful speech with the participants was precious and inspiring. The workshop usually started with the formal opening and ice breaking session through 'Social Gathering Evening'. The workshop started with creating the **Social Capital:** The Honor Code of the workshop on day#1; and had continued with one after another sessions on Synergy between BRAC and BRACU, BRACU Professional Guidelines (code of conducts), Why students behave the way they do, and the Residential Semester of BRACU. The sessions on Critical Thinking in Teaching, How to start the First Session, Direct and Indirect Instruction and Microteaching sessions were few more participatory sessions with debate, team work, walk about, demo class - lectures etc. Through these sessions the faculty had a chance to polish their teaching efficiency reflecting themselves as the Effective Performers of BRACU. The sessions on The Art of Questioning ,Students Grading and How to manage Students' Disruptive Behavior were few more effective sessions, led them prepare to be more confident and fair in grading and in managing students' disruptive behavior effectively. Finally the session on Personal Development: Habits of High Performing Teachers was a new-eye opening session focusing on own habits relating with teaching competences. The performance of BRAC Popular Theater and the Cultural Evening (organized by the participants) followed by a special dinner on became a ritual of TLC workshops added with the extra-curricular learning experience. The closing sessions of the workshops went through Cob-web method where each of the participants and the facilitators got a chance to share personal reflection about the whole workshop and wishing for peer colleagues. Each of the workshops was wrapped up by thanks giving and distributing certificates among the new TLC Graduates.

- **4th TLC Workshop on Experiential Teaching Learning with CFT of BRACU on VIPP**

4th TLC Workshop on Experiential Teaching Learning with CFT of BRACU on Visualization In participatory Programs (VIPP) was held on January 27th. It was designed into two sessions. The beginning session starts with a short discussion on the Roots of Visualization In participatory Programs (VIPP). After that several hands-on group activities, like-how to write idea cards, single dot and multiple dots approach and traffic signs were demonstrated. The group exercises on Hanji Vs Nan-ji and Fish-pond led the workshop more interactive and participatory.



In the Micro-Teaching session the presentation was on Western Drama from ENS department and the presenters were Ms. Rukhsana Rahman and Ms. Asifa Sultana.

A number of 14 members of CFT, participated the workshop and facilitators were Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury.

The workshop was wrapped up by the closing comments followed by creative and constructive feedbacks by the facilitators and the members of CFT.

- **TLC gave support to the Residential Week-end Program of BRACU EMBA students on March 17-18 and July 14-15**



The Residential week -end program for EMBA students of BRACU titled as 'Exploring New Horizon of Learning' held on March 17-18 at Savar Campus and on July 14 -15 at Savar BCDM. The workshops were organized jointly by TLC and BRAC Business School (BBS). The sessions on Personal Development: Habits of Highly Effective People and on BRAC: Learning from BRAC programs & activities were facilitated by Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRACU and the Socialization Evening facilitated by Ms. Samina Anzum, Lecturer TLC. A number of 51 EMBA students attended the programs.

- **Integrated session at RS on Personal Development: Habits of Highly Successful Students:**

'Personal development is a hard work. It takes time, consistency and pertinence.' The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, written by Stephen R. Covey (1989) embody many of the fundamental principals of human effectiveness. This session focused on the learning those principals through practical ideas to make the important changes in the students lives, both big and small so that they can get their lives on track and start living up to the potential (Dr. F. G. Samdani).

TLC gives supports in material development, session planning and in facilitation in the integrated session on Personal Development: Habits of Highly Successful Students designed under HUM Course; Ethics and Culture for the residential semester students of BRACU. This integrated session with RS 28th batch and 29th batch was held on March13 and September 24. The sessions were started with a seven habit song followed by the power point presentation and lecture on seven habits. There was a small role play on how Habit forms and a slideshow was shown on the story of Tortoise and Hare. The beginning part of the session was facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir. After his presentation, the students were divided into the nine and fourteen sections and sent with the respective faculty members where there had activity based more discussion on seven habits. Colloquim method was applied for the panel discussion and question-answer session. The sessions were wrapped up by taking feedbacks from the students.

- **TLC Initiated and gave support in organizing the session on 'Gender and Ethics: Why Gender matters?' On July 16 at BRACU residential semester:**

The session on 'Gender and Ethics: Why Gender matters?' was an integrated session under Hum course: Ethics and Culture at RS. TLC gave support in planning the whole session, preparing lesson plan, developing the resource materials and in facilitating. The session started with opening silence. Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir welcomed and introduced the guest facilitator Ms. Sheepa Hafiza, Director, Gender Justice & Diversity, BRAC who conducted the first session with the main presentation on 'Gender and Ethics: Why Gender matters?' A total number of280 students were present there. After the main presentation students were sent to the separate nine sections with their respective assigned teachers for further clarification, group exercise and group presentation on the very topic. From TLC, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Ms. Samina Anzum, Ms. Sumaiya Anwar, Ms. Farjana Abedin, Ms. Rumana Sharmen and Mr. Shami Suhrid facilitated the group activities of the students in different sections.







Pic: Ms. Sheepa Hafiza Conducting the session (right); Few of the faculty members from TLC and RS (Left);

- **TLC supports organizing and facilitating the session on 'Ethical Dilemmas' on July 28 at BRACU residential semester:**

The session on 'Ethical Dilemmas' was another integrated session under Hum course: Ethics and Culture at RS on July 28. TLC gave support in planning the whole session, preparing lesson plan, developing the resource materials and hiring facilitators from TLC. The integrated part was started with an opening song. Then a power



point presentation followed by a relevant you-tube on the topic was shown. The session was conducted by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir.After the one hour presentation the students were sent with assigned nine faculty members into separate nine sections to discuss in six small groups on 12 ethical dilemmas scenarios and resolving those dilemmas on the basis of the six approaches, like utilitarian approach, common good approach, right approach, virtue approach, duty approach etc. considering the four concerns: Short term vs. Long term; Truth vs. Loyalty; Individual vs. Community and Justice vs. Mercy. Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir and Ms. Samina Anzum, Lecturer, TLC facilitated the discussions into two separate sections.

- **A Learning workshop with BRAC Young Professionals (YP) on "Who Am I: What is the purpose of my life?"**

TLC conducted a special session under 'Series of Public Lectures 'organized by BRAC for its Young Professionals (YP) on Oct 2nd at BRACU Auditorium. The session was a part of BRAC and BRACU synergy activities and was titled as "Who Am I: What is the purpose of my life?" A number of faculty members and admin staffs both from BRAC and BRACU made their active participation in the workshop along with the young professionals. It was facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC and Director, TLC, BRACU, Samina Anzum, Lecturer, TLC and Mr. Shami Suhrid, Psycho



social counselor, BRACU counseling unit. The session was conducted through a number of exercises healing one's own realization of personal vision and mission, core values and core competencies relating with the organizational one, where they serve. The exercise on "Circle of Taking and Circle of Giving" both in personal and professional life, made the participants think critically about themselves - what type of employee/person they really are and how much they have been contributing to the society, to the organization and to the family comparing the advantages/services they have been receiving! The last exercise was on "The four parts(body, mind, heart and spirit)" of a human being those must be taken cared of if anybody truly wants to serve the organization, the family and the nation. The session was wrapped up by a recitation of a poem, composed by Pablo Neruda .

- **TLC FOLLOW-UP WORKSHOPS in 2011:**

2nd TLC Follow-up Workshop on Teaching and Learning at BRACU was held on March 19th. The workshop was designed for the faculty members, participated the TLC workshops between Jan'2010to Jan'2011.The workshop was conducted through Colloquium method, followed by VIPP approach. A short session on Managing Disruptive Students' Behavior: Role of the Teachers added extra learning insights to the participants. A total number of 25 faculty members participated the workshop. The workshop was Facilitated by Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC & Director, TLC, BRACU, Ms. Farida Akhter, Counselor & consultant and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Lecturer, TLC

3rd TLC Follow-up workshop was held on April 23rd on 'The Role of Teachers in Managing Disruptive Students' Behavior'. The workshop was designed for the faculty members, participated the TLC workshops between Jan'2010to Jan'2011.The workshop was carried out into two major phases. In the first phase, it was a Review on the learning from previous TLC workshop and the second phase was conducted on the Concept, Types , Underline causes and Specific role of teachers in managing Students' disruptive behavior. 4th TLC Follow-up workshop was held on October 13th at BRACU auditorium. It was a half day workshop and the participants were 40 TLC Graduates (faculty members) from TLC -4 and TLC-5 workshop. The workshop was designed into two phases. The earlier phase was revisiting and getting reflections from the graduates to know how far they could apply the learning they had from TLC workshops. In the second phase there were group discussions on the problems/challenges they are facing for ensuring effective teaching at BRACU and what are the measures they are taking/could be taken to address those problems. Each of the group's discussions, the most challenging issues/problems were chosen and it was listed in idea cards. Altogether 13 issues of concerns were listed. These phases were facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury.



After the health break the panel discussion was started. In this discussion session all the departmental Heads were invited. Prof. AA Ziauddin Ahmed, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Prof. Sayeed Salam,Prof. Fuad H. Mallick, Prof. Firdous Azim, Prof. Mumit khan, Prof. Rizwan Khair and Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury , Registrar were present in the panel discussion. This session was facilitated by Prof. Ainun Nishat, VC, BRACU where all those 13 concerned issues were discussed thoroughly. It was a very participatory session where many creative and realistic suggestions came from the VC, Pro-VC and the Heads of departments .The workshop was ended-up with vote of thanks by VC and Pro-VC and sharing open feedbacks from the participants.

- **Workshop on "Strengthening Organizational Performance of BRACU" on 22nd**

A TLC Professional Development workshop for

BRACU administrative personnel titled as 'Strengthening Organizational Performance of BRACU" was organized on 22nd October . It was jointly organized by Teaching Learning Center (TLC) and BRACU Career Services Office (CSO).



The facilitators were Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRACU, Mr Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, Mohammad Abdur Rahman, Head, BLD, BRAC, Ms. Rosy Sharif, Assistant Director, HR and Mr. Monojit Kumar Ojha, Head of Accounts, BRACU. A number of resource persons -Ms. Ismat Shereen, Head, CSO, Mr. Arifuzzaman, Assistant Registrar, Program, Md. Nurul Islam Bulbul, Assistant



Director, Admin also spread their support to make this workshop successful. The total participants were 22 administrative staffs of BRACU and one from BU-IED. The facilitators gave separate presentation followed by question-answer session each in the areas of BRAC and its Programs, BRACU rules, regulation and procedures (including sexual harassment policy, accounts and HR relevant policies). The next session was on Work motivation, facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Ms. Samina Anzum , Lecturer, TLC and Mr. Ashik Sarwar, Lecturer, CfL where there a number of group exercises followed by group presentations.

- **TLC Workshop on Performance Analysis for the Department Coordination Officers (DCO)**

The workshop was held on November 15th. A total of 17 DCOs were present in the workshop. The agenda of the workshop was to re-examine the given responsibilities to BRACU DCOs and identify the problems & their associated causes in carrying out the responsibilities. Then discussions on highlighting the ways and means of solving those problems were carried out. Based on 12 Terms of References (ToR) for BRACU DCOs, a group exercise on Task Analysis was completed where the participants were divided into 4 groups and discussed on what are the problems and their associated causes that they are facing in their working areas. Each of the groups presented their discussion and most important 12 issues of concern were listed down. Finally few suggestions came from the participants' side including organizing frequent workshops on professional development, English language skills and on work motivation and concerning for a clear career path for the BRACU DCOs. Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Prof. Fuad H. Mallick, Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Ms. Rosy Sharif , Ms. Ismat Sheeren and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury were in the facilitation team.



Global Development Learning Network (GDLN)

Global Development Learning Network (GDLN)

BRAC University is the one and only affiliates of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) (http://www.gdln.org) in Bangladesh and has been operating since 2006. The Center is equipped with air conditioned, soundproofed Video Conferencing and multimedia rooms to facilitate a comfortable learning environment. Around 40 people can participate at a time. The centre is open from Sunday to Saturday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm.
The Global Development Learning Network (GDLN), coordinated by the World Bank, is a partnership of over 120 recognized global institutions (Affiliates) in over 80 countries that collaborates in the design of customized learning solutions for individuals and organizations working in education and development. Affiliates are as diverse as the Asian Institute of Management, the Ethiopian Civil Service College, the Islamic Development Bank, and Pontifícia Universidad Católica of Peru.

Mission:
To bring the world together to facilitate learning to contribute in local and global development.

Our services include:
- Video Conferencing courses, dialog, meeting and
- Video Conferencing facilities for hire

computer based online training, workshops, meetings, interviews and consultations
- Teleconferences

Important courses and seminars Conducted in Year 2011:

>> Understanding Science and Policy of Climate Change

The blended learning program on "Science and Policy on Climate Change" was developed to raise awareness and enhance understanding of the implications of climate change within the broad context of sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region. The program was designed to enhance interactivity among participants and experts by blending video conference sessions with on-line discussion forums in a self-learning style web-based e-learning course with 156 participants from 21 countries went through intensive learning. The video conference sessions connected GDLN centers in six of participating countries (Bangladesh, India, Japan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam).





South-South Knowledge Experience Exchange on Strengthening Local Governance

A multi country global dialog on "South-South Knowledge Experience Exchange Strengthening Local Governance" was held at BRAC



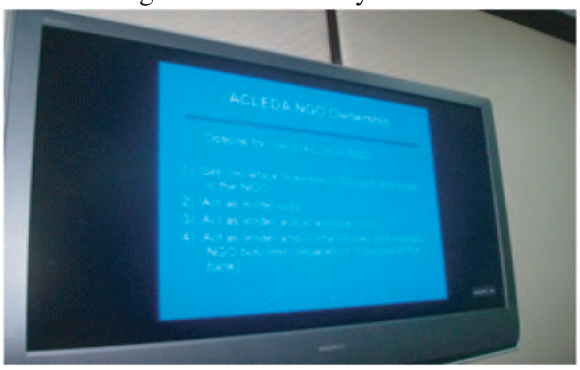


University on 10 Aug, 2011. This South-South Experience Exchange Facility (SEETF) within the World Bank has provided the South Asia Urban and Water Department (SASDU) to organize a knowledge exchange between the Government of Bangladesh, the Government of Kerala in India, the Government of India, the State of West Bengal, the Government of Uganda and the Government of Tanzania.

Bangladeshi participants included member of the Parliament, high officials of Government and non government organizations.

7th Microfinance Training of Trainers Course MFTOT 7

The interactive microfinance distance learning course (MFDL) developed by UNCDF was the core learning material for study.





Participants in MFTOT # 7 Program

Four (4) Interactive Video Conference took place in 4 months at BRAC University Premises along with online tutoring, e-discussion and online exams. Submission of assignments and receiving online tutoring helped participants to master the knowledge of best practice of microfinance. Approximately 300 participants took part in the course which ran between December 2010 and April 2011. Participating countries were Afghanistan, Bangladesh, France, Japan, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, and SriLanka GDLN Centers

Disaster Risk Management in East Asia and Pacific series

Because natural disasters have a disproportionate impact on the poor, disaster mitigation and management programs are an integral part of poverty alleviation strategies. In this regard, the EAP region is working with clients to shift from post-disaster response to risk reduction and mitigation programs in order to build disaster resilient societies. The East Asia and Pacific Disaster Risk Management (DRM) team, in collaboration with the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN), is supporting Disaster Risk Management Distance



Learning Seminar Series for EAP client countries to build capacity and increase knowledge of all professionals who will be involved in DRM activities as well as to help them drive the agenda for DRM activities in their respective countries and empower local partners. Support for this initiative had been provided by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

Video Conferencing series on "Green Growth":

Distance learning center in Tokyo, Japan successfully delivered its seminar entitled "Green Growth" on 14 and 25 November. The seminar sought to motivate and enable stakeholders in countries, mainly in the EAP region, to become aware of the current status and future perspectives of their country's Green Growth policy. There were 14 participants in the seminar from different government and non government organizations including two faculty members of BRAC University.

APO e-learning Courses

Asian Productivity Organization (APO) has introduced VC-based courses using GDLN platform each year. In 2011, 4 different courses were delivered to 18 countries (who are members of APO) for total 900 people. These courses were:

- (a) ISO26001: Guidance on Social Responsibility
- (b) Integrated Management Systems (ISO9001, OHSAS18001, and ISO14001)
- (c) Knowledge Management for the Service Sector
- (d) International Trade of Agriculture and Food Products

Above courses are simply structured for 3-4 days with VC lectures on course subjects, off-line sessions, site visits (domestic) & group presentations, and examination. Throughout the course, local coordinators hired/assigned take care of 20-30 participants in each country. Beside classroom lectures, site visits are arranged to help participants contextualize theoretical learning, and each country group makes short presentations about the site visits on the following day, to which other countries make comments and experts undertake evaluations with score. Moreover, these e-learning courses are linked to other face-to-face programs, so successful participants are given opportunity to participate in international training course as follow-up.





Participants in APO program

Regional meeting in New Delhi, India

Global Development Learning Network Asia Pacific (GDLN AP) organized its annual general meeting in New Delhi, India, hosted by GDLN center of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI- DLC). The meeting took place from 05 to 10 December 2011. BRAC University is the only GDLN Affiliated center in Bangladesh and Ms. Fahima Khanam Assistant Director, IT, attended the meeting. More than 40 representatives from South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific have gathered in TERI, New Delhi to discuss how the region could boost its provision of knowledge exchange and capacity building through the Global Development Learning Network and updated each other their on ongoing programs.





Ayesha Abed Library

Ayesha Abed Library

http://library.bracu.ac.bd
Annual Report 2011

In 2011 BRAC University Ayesha Abed Library continued to make progress towards the realization of the key strategies designed to improve support for the University's learning, teaching and research activities. The library has developed and improved its core services and products this year.

Several initiatives were taken throughout this year. The main objective of these initiatives was to develop our library into a 21st Century world-class Knowledge Resource Centre and provide innovative services and collections to the teaching, learning and research communities. The library during the year has made significant progress in several areas.

Project Implemented:

- January 2011: The first Open Source Discovery Tool Project in Bangladesh VuFind was launched.



Launching Ceremony of VuFind Discovery Tool

- **March 2011:** Free wireless Internet access ismade available in all library floors
- **October 2011:** Remote Access to Electronic Resources through MyAthens was introduced



Celebration of Open Access Week 2011

- **October 2011:** Celebrated this International Open Access Week first time in Bangladesh by announcing a number of awards and conducting a seminar on Open Access and Institutional Repository.
- **October 2011:** BRAC University Library introduced the first-ever Radio Frequency Identification System in Bangladesh

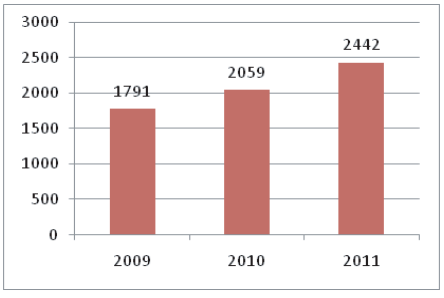


Launching Ceremony of RFID System

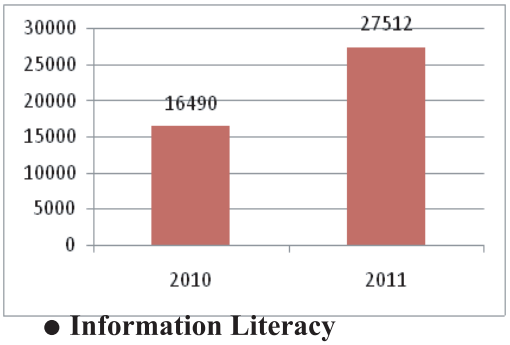
Training Conducted in 2011:

Institution Name	Koha (ILS) No of Participants	" MARC 21 (Cataloguing Standard) No of Participants	" VuFind " (Discovery Tool) 5-6 January
Khulna University of Engineering Technology(KUET) May 8-12	5		56 participants from different university in Bangladesh
Khulna University of Engineering Technology(KUET) September 11-14		8	
Northern University March 11-13,18	10		
Northern University April 1-2, 8-9,2011		10	
Daffodil International University, April 1-3,9	12		
Daffodil International University, April 15-16,22-23		14	
Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh April 4-7	4		
Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh April 27-29	16		

Statistical Summary:
Book Purchased 2009-2011



Usage Statistics of Online Journals 2010-2011



- **Loans and Borrowing Activity 2011**

Total Loans	* 5962
Total Renewals	* 19368
Total Hold	* 441

- **Information Literacy**
- **(Training in using library and information resources)**

	2010	* 2011
Sessions	51	* 71
Participants	1255	* 1500

Financial Assistance

Financial Assistance

BRAC University offers scholarship to students in every semester, on the basis of their academic result. It also provides financial assistance to any undergraduate and postgraduate students enrolled at the University who are doing satisfactory progress but facing genuine financial constraints. This has been to ensure that financial need is not a barrier for bright and needy students. Its scholarship and financial aid process is transparent and credible and provides in an effective, timely, fair and impartial manner to all who qualify. Following are the several categories that can be availed by eligible BRACU students:

Description of Category	*Required Minimum GPA/ CGPA*	*% of Tuition Fee Waiver*
* **Performance Based Scholarship**	CGPA = < 3.70 (in each semester)	Up to 100%
*** Merit Based Scholarship** (On the basis of Performance in SSC+HSC and Equivalent Test)	GPA = 5.0 (without 4th subject) in SSC & HSC from Science, Arts and Commerce groups or 7 'A's in 'O' level (in one sitting) and 3 'A's in 'A' levels.	Up to 100%
*** BRAC-Ford Scholarship** (On the basis of Performance in SSC+HSC of Meritorious Students from disadvantaged financial background)	GPA = 4.5 from Science GPA = 4.0 from Arts & Commerce	Up to 100% Tuition waiver + Living allowance
*** Need Based Scholarship** (Meritorious Students from constraint financial background)	3:00 (in each semester)	Up to 100%
*** Siblings / Spouse / Offspring**	3.00 (in each semester)	Up to 50%
*** BRACU Employee**	3.00 (in each semester)	Up to 80%
*** BRACU Employee's Children Scholarship**	3.00 (in each semester)	Up to 80%

Details of Scholarship Disbursed in 2010 - 2011

Description	**Amount in Taka**
Full Tuition Fee Waiver	12,846,732 /-
Partial Tuition Fee Waiver	22,584,458 /-
Full Tuition Fee Waiver with Living Allowance (BRAC - Ford Scholarship Endowment Fund)	3,705,259/-
Total	39,136,449/-

Administration, Management and Faculty

Administration and Management

Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor
Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir , Pro-Vice Chancellor
Mr. Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar , Treasurer
Air Cdre (Retd) Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar

Vice Chancellor's Office

Mr. Md. Ershadul Kader Faruki, Executive Officer
Mr. Md. Shahidul Islam, Secretary to the Vice Chancellor

Office of the Registrar

Mr. Md. Arifuzzaman, Assistant Registrar-II
Ms. Nazmus Sabeka, Assistant Director, Examinations
Ms. Shadia Alam, Assistant Registrar, Examination & Transcript
Mr. Mohammad Shamim Azad, Assistant Registrar-I, Admission & Registration
Mr. Rayhanul Hoque, Admin Officer
Ms. Shibly Siddiquee, Assistant Examination & Transcript Officer
Ms. Fakrun Nahar Muniya, Assistant Registration & Program Officer
Mr. Md. Mazedul Islam, Administrative Assistant

Students Affairs Office

Dr. Zainab Faruqui Ali, Director
Mr. Md. Hafizul Hasan, Assistant Director, SAO
Mr. Najmul Hasan, Student Affairs Officer
Ms. Malahat Ferdous. Assistant Students Affairs Officer

Accounts Office

Mr. Monojit Kumar Ojha, Head of Accounts
Mr. Azharul Islam Bhuiyan, Manager
Mr. Md. Nazmul Hasan, Deputy Manager
Mr. Amdadul Islam, Senior Accounts Officer
Mr. Sumon Chandra Das, Senior Accounts Officer
Mr. Md. Golam Kibria, Accounts Officer
Mr. Md. Humayun Bashar, Accounts Officer
Mr. Mohammad Khorshed Alam, Accounts Officer
Mr. Sk. Mahamudur Rahman, Accounts officer
Mr. Subrota Samadder, Assistant Accounts Officer
Ms. Senjuti Mandal, Assistant Accounts Officer
Ms. Nusrat Zahan, Junior Accounts Officer
Mr. Md. Kamruzzaman Khandoker, Assistant Officer, Accounts (Niketon)

Relationship Management Office (RMO)

Ms. Ismat Shereen, Head
Mr. Saiduzzaman Shikder, Admin Officer
Mr. Asadullah Chowdhury, Admin Officer
Ms. Allfe Shahnoor Chowdhury, Student Counselor

Human Resources Office

Ms. Rosy Sharif, Assistant Director
Ms. Momena Begum, Human Resource Officer
Ms. Shahana Akter, Assistant Human Resource Officer
Ms. Tanvia Ifrat, Junior Human Resource Officer
Ms. Rehena Pervin, Human Resource Assistant

Career Services Office

Ms. Asma Banu, Senior Assistant Director
Mr. Kazi Shahnoor Kabir, Career Services Executive
Ms. Shanzida Shahab Uddin, Career Services Officer

IT Systems Office

Mr. Mohammad Hossain, Senior System Administrator
Ms. Fahima Khanam, Assistant Director, IT & Manager, GDLN
Mr. Aminul Islam, System Administrator
Mr. Mohammad Rezaul Islam, System Administrator
Mr. Md. Sadat Mursalin Chowdhury, System Administrator
Mr. Aurongojeb, System Administrator
Mr. Md. Al-Mahmud, System Administrator
Mr. Tapan Biswas, Senior Program Officer, IT, SPH
Mr. Md. Shariful Alam, IT Officer
Mr. Md. Rajib Hasan, IT Officer
Mr. Md. Abdur Rouf Sarker, IT Officer

Administration Department

Mr. Md. Nurul Islam, Assistant Director, Admin
Md. Rezaul Hoque, Senior Store Officer
Mr. Sk. Tareq Hossain, Maintenance/ Administrative Officer
Mr. Md. Akterujjaman, Administrative Officer
Mr. Shahid Nur Islam, Junior Admin Officer
Mr. Muhammad Shahjahan, Campus Supervisor
Ms. Israt Sultana, Telephone Operator
Ms. Minakshi Das, Hostel Super
Ms. Mahmuda Yasmin Lota, Hostel Super

Procurement Department

Mr. Abdul Moghni Chowdhury
Procurement Manager
Mr. Md Mahbub Alam, Procurement Officer
Mr. Kazi Nazmul Islam, Procurement Officer
Mr. Mahabub- Bin- Zaman (Suzan), Procurement Officer

Medical Center

Ms. Dr. Salina Akhter , Medical Officer

Public Relation Office

Mr. Dewan Hasan Mahamood, Public Relations Officer
Mr. Wahiduzzaman, Assistant Public Relations Officer

Counseling Team

Ms. Farida Akhtar, Consultant (Part Time)
Mr. Shami Suhrid, Psycho Social Counselor
Ms. Anjuman Ara, Psycho Social Counselor, Savar Campus
Ms. Sumaiya Anwar, Psycho Social Counselor
Ms. Rumana Sharmeen, Psycho Social Counselor
Ms. Farjana Abedin, Psycho Social Counselor
Mr. Saleh Siddique, Psycho Social Counselor

Writing Centre

Ms. Rajia Sultana, Lecturer

Teaching Learning Centre

Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Head
Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Lecturer

Savar

Mr. Md. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, Campus Superintendent
Dr. Nurul Huda Abul Monsur, Professor, Part-Time
Mr. Farid Ahmed Associate Professor, Part-Time
Mr.Md. Rejaul Karim, Lecturer
Mr. Kazi Mafizur Rahman, Lecturer
Ms. Rifat Jahan, Lecturer
Ms. Arifa Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Mahbub Or Rahman Bhuyan, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Sayeedul Islam Khan, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Farjana Mahjabin , Teaching Assistant
Ms. Lubna Jebin, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Rawshan Jahan Shashi, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Md. Shamsuddoha, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Rehan Ahmed, Students Affairs & Campus Management Officer
Mr. Faruk Hossain, Admin Officer (Coordination-RS)
Mr. Md. Aminul Islam, Senior Campus Management Officer
Mr. Md. Jashim Uddin Bhuiyan, House Tutor
Mr. Md. Kamal Pasha, House Tutor
Mr. Bikash Kumar Biswas, House Tutor
Ms. Mosammat Rokeya Begum, House Tutor
Ms. Ismat Ara , House Tutor
Mr. Md. Morshedul Haque, House Tutor
Mr. Bakul Hossen, House Tutor
Mst. Maksuda Khanom, House Tutor
Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, House Tutor
Mst. Lovely Akter, House Tutor
Mr. Md. Rumon Talukder (Rumon), Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Parimal Chandra Das, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Md. Shohag, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Halal Rabbani, Senior Assistant Librarian
Ms. Morium Irani, Resident Nurse

Ayesha Abed Library

Ms. Hasina Afroz, Librarian
Mr. Md. Nasir Uddin, Senior Assistant Librarian
Ms. Nasima Begum, Senior Assistant Librarian

Mr. Kh. Ali Murtoza, Senior Assistant Librarian
Mr. Ahmad Parvez, Assistant Librarian
Ms. Sajia Sultana, Assistant Librarian
Mr. Nonigopel Roy, Assistant Librarian
Ms. Asma Khatun, Assistant Librarian
Mr. A.N.M Sabbir, Junior Assistant Librarian
Mr. Auninda Rumy Saleque, Assistant System Programmer
Ms. Urmi Hira ,Assistant System Programmer

Schools, Departments, Institutes and Centres

SCHOOLS

BRAC Business School
Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, Professor
Dr. A. B. Mirza Md. Azizul Islam, Visiting Professor
Professor Mamun Rashid, Director
Mr. Mahmudul Haq, Assistant Professor
Mr. Md. Shawkat Kamal, Assistant Professor
Ms. Afsana Akhtar, Assistant Professor
Mr. Shamim Ehsanul Haque, Sr. Lecturer
Ms. Syeda Shaharbanu Shahbazi, Sr. Lecturer
Ms. Mahtab Faruqui, Sr. Lecturer
Mr. Tareq Mahbub, Sr. Lecturer
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Ms. Sharmin Shabnam Rahman, Lecturer
Ms. Samina Haque, Lecturer
Ms. Kohinur Akter, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Jabir Al Mursalin, Lecturer
Ms. Rahnuma Ahmed, Lecturer
Mr. Muhammad Intisar Alam, Lecturer
Mr. Saif Hossain, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Tanvi Newaz , Lecturer
Ms. Sayla Sowat Siddiqui, Lecturer
Ms. Faria Rashid, Lecturer
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Ms. Asphia Habib, Lecturer
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Mr. Jabed Rasel, DCO, EMBA
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Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

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Mr. Matin Saad Abdullah, Assistant Professor
Dr. Amitabha Chakrabarty, Assistant Professor
Mr. Hossain Arif, Lecturer
Mr. Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali, Lecturer
Ms. Farzana Rashid,Lecturer
Mr. Farazul Haque Bhuiyan, Lecturer
Mr. Imran Ahmed, Lecturer
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Mr. Rubel Biswas, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Ariful Alam Khan, Lecturer
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Ms. Dilruba Showkat, Lecturer
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Ms. Afruza Begum, ADCO

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Dr. Ahmed Kamal, Assistant Professor
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Ms. Rumana Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Supriyo Shafkat Ahmed, Lecturer
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Ms. Mahua Zahur, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Tanveer Ahmad, Lecturer
Mr. Theophil Nokrek, DCO

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Dr. Sabina Fiaz Rashid, Professor, MPH Coordinator
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Mr. Asif Kashem, Research Associate
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Md. Asiful Haider Chowdhury, Data Mang. Anls. Specialist-GFATM
Ms. Dishana Parul, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist-GFATM
Ms. Maliha Bassam, Documentation & Comm. Officer-GFATM
Ms. Gayatri Chowdhury, Field Research Officer-
GFATM
Dr. Aliya Ali, Consultant (MOVE IT)

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Mr. Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Sr. Lecturer
Mr. A. K. M. Sirajuddin, Sr. Lecturer
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Mr. Muhammad Nafisur Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Shajjad Hossain, Lecturer
Mr. Hasibush Shaheed, Lecturer
Mr. Abdul Fazal Mahmudun Nobi, Lecturer
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Mr. Abu Muhammad Rahat Mujib Niaz, Lecturer, Part Time
Mr. Shams Mansoor Ghani, Lecturer, Part Time
Ms. Rabeya Rahman, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Shakil Ahmad Shimul, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Ferdaus H. Khan, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Sanjana Ahmed, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Tanzil Idmam Shafique, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Suhailey Farzana, Architectural Assistant
Mr. Md. Lutfor Rahman, Sr. DCO

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Dr. Riaz P. Khan, Professor
Dr. Wasiqur Rahman Khan, Associate Professor
Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Assistant Professor
Dr. Farzana Munshi, Assistant Professor
Dr. A. M. Tanvir Hussain, Assistant Professor
Dr. Seuty Sabur, Assistant Professor
Dr. Samia Huq, Assistant Professor
Dr. Wahed Abdallah, Assistant Professor
Mr. Md. Kamrul Hasan, Sr. Lecturer
Mr. Haydory Akbar Ahmed, Sr. Lecturer
Ms. Fahmida Saadia Rahman, Lecturer
Ms. Takrima Sayeda, Lecturer
Ms. Sarah Salahuddin, Lecturer
Ms. Salina Siddiqua, Lecturer
Mr. Tanveer Reza Rouf, Lecturer
Mr. Serajes Salekeen, Lecturer
Ms. Tamanna Chowdhury, DCO

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Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Professor & Coordinator, Biotechnology
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Dr. Abu M Khan, Associate Professor
Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor
Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Assistant Professor
Ms. Sharmina Hussain, Assistant Professor
Ms. Moushumi Zahur, Assistant Professor
Mr. Iftekhar Md. Shafiqul Kalam, Assistant Professor
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Ms. Fardousi Ara Begum, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain, Lecturer
Ms. Farzana Ahmed, Lecturer
Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury, Lecturer
Mr. Mahbubul Hasan Siddiqee, Lecturer
Mr. Sheik Ahmed Ullah, Lecturer
Ms. Sanjeeda Nazneen, Lecturer
Mr. Touhid Hossain, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Sazib Hasan, Lecturer
Mr. Muhammad Luftor Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Fazle Rabbi, Lecturer
Ms. Amel Chowdhury, Lecturer
Mr. Zulfiqar Hasan Khan, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Rajib Arefin, Lecturer
Ms. Mehnaz Karim, Lecturer
Ms. Sadia Sayed, Lecturer
Ms. Romana Siddique, Lecturer
Ms. Fahareen-Binta-Mosharraf, Lecturer
Ms. Asma-Ul-Husna, Lecturer
Mr. Rausan Atik Jewel, Teaching Assistant
Mr. M. H. Mesbah Ahmed, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Nushrat Hossain, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Md. Shahin Shaikh, DCO

Department of Pharmacy

Professor Ashik Mosaddik, Chairperson
Mr. Mahmud Tareq Ibn Morshed, Lecturer
Ms. Shahana Sharmin, Lecturer
Ms. Zara Sheikh, Lecturer
Ms. Ronok Zahan, Lecturer
Ms. Saki Sultana, Lecturer
Mr. Md. Amanul Haque, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Md. Shahin Shaikh, DCO

INSTITUTES

BRAC Development Institute (BDI)

Professor Syed M Hashemi, Director
Ms. Simeen Mahmud, Lead Researcher
Dr. Ferdous Jahan, Academic Coordinator
Ms. Maheen Sultan, Research Program Coordinator
Dr. Mirza M. Hassan, Lead Researcher
Dr. Sohela Nazneen, Lead Researcher
Dr. Ferdous Arfina Osman, Academic Coordinator
Dr. Samia Huq, Assistant Professor
Ms. Lopita Huq, Research Fellow
Ms. Suborna Jesmin, Office Manager
Mr. Khondoker Shakhawat Ali, Communications Coordinator
Mr. Alamgir Kabir, Deputy Academic Coordinator
Mr. Shamsul Huda Badal, Senior Research Associate
Mr. Mamun Ur Rahid, Senior Research Associate
Ms. Kobita Chowdhury, Research Associate
Mr. Imtiaj Rasul, Research Associate
Mr. Md. Saiful Islam, Research Associate
Mr. Omar Faruque Siddiki, Research Associate
Mr. Bayazid Hasan, Research Associate
Mr. Iqbal Ehsan, Research Associate
Ms. Subhi Shama, Research Associate
Professor S. R. Osmani, Visiting Faculty

Institute of Educational Development-BRAC University (IED-BRACU)

Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Senior Adviser
Ms. Kaniz Fatema, Adviser
Dr. Erum Mariam, Director
Dr. Mary Monica Gomes, Professor
Ms. Anisa Haq, Programme Head
Dr. Nishat Fatima Rahman, Assistant Professor
Mr. Md. Altaf Hossain, Research Fellow
Ms. Trishna Sagar, Lecturer
Ms. Basabi Maksud, Senior Manager (Admin)
Mr. Mohammad Zia-Us-Sabur, Senior Research Associate
Ms. Nashida Ahmed, Senior Curriculum Specialist

Institute of Governance Studies (IGS)

Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Adviser
Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director (In Charge)
Mr. Naimur Rahman, Chief Operating Officer, ANSA SAR
Dr. Elvira Graner, Research Fellow
Mr. Md. Shahidul Islam, Visiting Research Fellow
Mr. Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager
Mr. Salahuddin Mahmud, Senior Manager (Finance, Admin & HR)
Mr. Kamrul Hasan Bhuiyan, Manager (Finance & Accounts)
Mr. Nahid Waliul, Manager (Administration & Logistics)
Ms. Nafisa Hussain, Executive Officer
Mr. Chandan Bikash Nath, IT Officer
Mr. Jamil Ahmed, Cheif of JATRI

CENTRES

Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)

Mr. Nandan Mukherjee, Program Manager

Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED)

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Ms. Farah Sarwar, Executive Assistant, CED

Centre for Languages (CfL)

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Ms. Farrah Jabeen, Senior Lecturer
Ms. Tamanna Maqsood, Senior Lecturer
Ms. Liza Reshmin, Senior Lecturer
Ms. Jesmine Zaker, Lecturer
Ms. Mahmuda Yesmin Shaila, Lecturer
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Ms. Samina Nasrin Chowdhury, Lecturer
Ms. Effat Hyder, Lecturer
Mr. Mohammad Aminul Islam, Lecturer
Ms. Moutushi Khandaker, Lecturer
Mr. Mohammad Rejaul Karim, Lecturer
Ms. Roxana Ahmad Chowdhury, Lecturer
Ms. Samia Zerin, Lecturer
Mr. Kazi Mafizur Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Khurrum Malik, Lecturer
Mr. Jerry Cornelious Cardoza, Lecturer
Mr. Golam Kader Zilany, Lecturer
Mr. Ashik Sarwar, Lecturer
Mr. Md.Mokarrom Hossain, Lecturer
Mr. Mahfujul Alom Masum, Lecturer
Ms. Mehetaz Chowdhury, Lecturer
Mr. Quazi Mosiur Rahman, Lecturer
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Ms. Hasna Khanom, Lecturer
Ms. Syeda Farzana, Lecturer
Ms. Subarna Sarkar, Lecturer
Mr. Farid Ahmed, Lecturer
Mr. Kazi Abu Bakar Siddique, Lecturer
Ms. Nazneen Zafar, Lecturer
Mr. Pankaj Paul, Lecturer
Ms. Mannujan Mohini Sudha, Lecturer
Ms. Sefat Irine Mou, Lecturer
Ms. Evita Umama Amin, Lecturer
Mr. Debashismoy Dutta, Lecturer
Ms. Sanahnaz Kamolika Rahman, Lecturer
Mr. Raisul Islam Chowdhury, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Sharmin Rahmatullah, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Farina Haque, Teaching Assistant
Ms. Nishat Sharmin, Teaching Assistant
Mr. Abdur Rahim, Part Time Lecturer, Chinese Language
Ms. Rifat Farzana Sumi, Part Time Lecturer, Korean Language
Ms. Jo Minjeong, Volunteer Lecturer, Korean Language
Ms. Zhu Lili, Volunteer Lecturer, Chinese Language
Mr. Sultan Ahmed, Associate Professor, Part Time, Arabic Language
Dr. Sayeedur Rahman, Asst. Professor, Part Time, English language
Mr. Rafique-Um-Munir Chowdhury, Lecturer, Part Time, Spanish Language
Ms. Nurunnesa Sabera, DCO, CfL
Mr. Md. Mahabubur Rahman, Admin Officer, CfL
Mr. Shadesh Kumer Roy, Senior Admin Officer, CfL

Lab Technical Officer

Mr. Md. Asaduzzaman All Faruq, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Md. Shah Alam, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Saddam Hossain, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Sarjil Mahmud, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Rasel Chowdhury, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Kazi Nurul Haque, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Ishtiaque Asad, Lab Technical Officer
Ms. Shamim Akhter Chowdhury, Lab Officer (Grade-1)
Mr. Md. Moniul Islam, Lab Officer (Grade-I)
Mr. Mowdud Ahmed, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Hameem Al Ahsan, Media Lab Officer
Md. Anawarul Islam, Lab Technical Officer
Ms. Shazia Afrin Chowdhury, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Tahsin Mahmud, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Md. Fahmid Wasif ,Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Md. Jahed Arefin Patwary Tanmoy, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. A.Z.M. Fakhrul Islam, Lab Technical Officer
Mr. Hasan Mahmud Chowdhury, Lab Technical Officer
Md. Fahmidur Hossen, Lab Technical Officer

Auditor's Report

BRAC
UNIVERSITY

ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants

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Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.

Branch Office :
House # 734, Road # 26
CDA R/A, Chittagong

Auditor's Report
To the Trustees of BRAC University

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of BRAC University, which comprise the balance sheet as at 30 June 2011, and the income statement and cash flows statement for the year then ended 30 June 2011 and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information with the notes 1-30 thereto.

Management's Responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Bangladesh Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Bangladesh Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of BRAC University as at 30 June 2011 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Bangladesh Accounting Standards.

Acnabin

ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants

Date: 22 November, 2011

ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants

BRAC University
Balance Sheet
as at 30 June 2011

	Notes	30 June 2011 Taka	30 June 2010 Taka
Non-Current Assets			
Property and equipment	3	83,900,999	85,590,602
Current Assets:			
Receivables	4	62,093,595	45,210,241
Advances, deposits and prepayments	5	16,265,128	14,229,440
Fixed deposits	6	474,643,729	313,179,690
Cash and bank balances	7	84,752,842	66,926,546
Total Current Assets		**637,755,294**	**439,545,917**
Current Liabilities:			
Grants received in advance	8	110,731,919	68,352,918
Tuition fees received in advance	9	85,599,689	74,739,825
Outstanding liabilities	10	65,159,747	58,714,357
Provision for taxation	11	39,016,408	21,657,389
Total Current Liabilities		**300,507,763**	**223,464,489**
Net Current Assets		**337,247,531**	**216,081,428**
Total Assets		**421,148,530**	**301,672,030**
Fund			
Scholarship endowment fund	12	59,768,310	57,190,953
Reserve fund	13	50,000,000	50,000,000
Deferred income	14	11,869,321	11,150,889
Gratuity fund	15	27,194,977	23,032,511
Other funds & Liabilities	16	65,810,411	59,526,604
Surplus of income over expenditure	17	206,505,511	100,771,073
Total Fund		**421,148,530**	**301,672,030**

The annexed notes form an integral part of the balance sheet

Treasurer | Member of Board of Trustees | President of Board of Trustees

This the balance sheet as referred to in our report of even date.

Dated, Dhaka
22 November 2011

ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants

ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants

BRAC University
Income and Expenditure Statement
for the year ended 30 June 2011

	Notes	July 2010 to June 2011 Taka	July 2009 to June 2010 Taka
Income			
Revenue	18	575,226,117	448,977,522
Interest income	19	36,103,341	24,678,166
Income from BRAC Ford Scholarship fund		3,705,259	4,222,478
Gain on disposal of property and equipment		999,920	132,270
Donor grants	20	340,652,960	248,020,150
Total income		**956,687,597**	**726,030,586**
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	21	302,300,953	226,799,126
Rent and utilities	22	110,160,491	88,366,236
Transportation and Traveling		22,481,845	24,116,498
Repairs, maintenance and renovation	23	16,597,013	11,944,726
Advertisement Expenses		6,137,150	7,766,398
Student Admission expenses	24	2,537,144	2,561,029
Scholarship to students	25	39,136,449	33,916,698
Residential Semester Expenses		28,008,807	28,024,291
Co-curricular activities of students	26	7,676,892	5,726,916
Honorarium		1,024,246	576,621
Seminar, conference, workshop and Training	27	45,369,691	33,522,963
Journals and Periodicals		954,978	896,004
Consultancy fees		25,509,864	29,829,297
Audit fees		980,500	1,169,000
Faculty and staff development and training		4,443,820	5,284,534
Convocation		5,285,698	4,489,356
General expenses	28	53,153,503	45,521,494
Depreciation on property and equipment		33,524,255	27,119,847
Expenses incurred by SSR		127,010,841	71,603,672
Total expenses		**832,294,140**	**649,234,706**
Surplus of income over expenditure		124,393,457	76,795,880
Provision for taxation		18,659,019	11,519,382
Net Surplus of income over expenditure		**105,734,438**	**65,276,498**

The annexed notes form an integral part of the Statement.

Treasurer | Member of Board of Trustees | President of Board of Trustees

This is the Income and Expenditure Statement as referred to in our report of even date.

Dated, Dhaka
22 November 2011

ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants