

2005/july

Newsletter Activity

The two issues of Activity Newsletter of RS Semester at BU Campus, Savar were published on July 3 and July 31, 2005. Each of the five dorms brought out colorful, innovative and ingenious publications. Krishnachura Dorm's Newsletter was adjudged to be the best.

Cultural Competition at Savar Campus

Cultural Competition was held at BU Campus, Savar on July 31, 2005. The programs were all very well organized. In the contest, Chhayaneer was adjudged as champion while Maloncho was adjudged as runner up. Rabindra Sangeet singer Lily Islam and Rowshan Jahan Nupur, BU Researcher were the judges for the program.

Admission Test-1, Fall 2005

Admission Test-1 for the Fall Semester 2005, Graduate and Undergraduate programs was held on July 29, 2005. Written test results were announced on July 31, 2005.

ARC Research Seminar 6

Ms. Anju Kapoor, Landscape Designer from India delivered a lecture on Chandigarh and its City center; landscape appraisal and design solution on July 28, 2005 at the Department of ARC, BU. She presented the approach of the Landscape design of the city center of Chandigarh as conceptualized by the famous architect Le Corbusier and its realization. She also presented an appraisal of the scheme and proposal to overcome its problems.

Handball Competition at Savar Campus

Female handball contest was held on July 28, 2005. Maloncho came out champion while Nikunjo was runner up. Choudhury Farah Jabeen from Maloncho was adjudged the best player of the competition.

BU President visits BRAC Sri Lanka

Mr. F H Abed, Chairperson, BRAC and President BU Governing Board and Mr. Aminul Alam, Deputy Executive Director, BRAC visited BRAC office in Sri Lanka on July 27, 2005 in order to further explore the possibilities of taking BRAC Health, Education, Social and Economic development programs to Sri Lanka. BRAC was registered as foreign NGO in Sri Lanka earlier in May, 2005 to help rebuild the country devastated by the Tsunami.

VC Received BCS Gold Medal

Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU received the BCS Gold medal for his distinctive contributions towards the development of ICT on July 27, 2005. The other individual awardees are Dr Muhammad Yunus, Abdul Matin Patwari, Dr M Kaikobad and Dr Jafar Iqbal, while the institutions are Board of Investment, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Bangladesh Association of Software Industries and Services, Bangladesh Computer Samity and Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh. Professor Iajuddin Ahmed, Hon'ble President of Bangladesh attended the function as the Chief Guest and distributed the awards. ICT Minister Abdul Moyeen Khan, Post and Telecommunications Minister Aminul Haque, Advisor to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and Executive Chairman of the Board of Investment Mahmudur Rahman and BCS

Secretary General Jafrin Hossain were also present on the occasion and addressed the audience.

ARC Presentation on Disaster Management Course

BU will offer Postgraduate Programs in Disaster Management from Fall Semester (September), 2005. A launching session for the programs was held at BU on July 27, 2005. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU addressed an audience consisting of representatives of International Organizations and NGOs, academics and professionals involved in Disaster Management, mentioning the need to have trained professionals in this field in a disaster-prone country such as Bangladesh. The programs will be hosted by the Department of Architecture, and its Chairperson Professor Fuad Mallick highlighted the national significance of this educational curriculum. Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed, Program Coordinator presented the curriculum structure and the various modules of study. Oxfam-GB has provided financial and other support to the Programs and CIDA has provided a scholarship fund. The courses of study are the first of its kind being offered in the region.

School of Public Health Update

The MPH Students successfully completed the 'Health Economics and Financing' course by the end of July 27, 2005. The course was taught by visiting faculty, Damian Walker and Dr. Kent Ransom, from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. This was the last course (part of Health Systems Management module) and the end of the first semester of core courses for the MPH students. The students were relocating from BU Campus, Savar to Dhaka for the Second Semester courses. To celebrate the successful completion of their first semester and also to farewell and thank the staff at Savar, the students hosted an informal dinner and organized a small social event at Savar.

Debate Competition

The inter-dorm debate competition was held in two rounds. In the first round all five dorms participated. Chhayaneer and Dhansiri were selected for the final round. The final round took place on July 27, 2005. The subject of the debate was "Micro-credit can not eradicate Poverty in Bangladesh." Chayaneer Dorm was declared winner while Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali of Dhanshiri was adjudged as the best speaker.

Angan Lecture 31

Shumona Hasan, daughter of the Artist Quamrul Hassan presented a selection of the artist's work from his own collection at the BRAC Center Inn Auditorium on July 26, 2005. She gave an overview of the late artist's life and times, his philosophy and achievements. She presented his early works from the time the artist was 17 till he died. The images shown were all from the artist's private collection and never before displayed to the public.

Final Presentation on Telephone Interview

Final presentation on telephone interview of the Residential Semester was held on July 25 and July 27 2005. The Department of English and Humanities (ENH) assigned the students to undertake telephonic interview of different institutions such as UNDP, Kallyani, RED, BRAC and Daily Star. Distinguished personalities Abdullah al Mamun and Dr. Noazesh Ahmed were also interviewed. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU attended the presentations on July 25, 2005.

ENH Chair attends Cultural Studies Conference in South Korea

Firdous Azim, Chair, ENH, presented a paper in the Korean National University of the Arts on July 24, 2005. Her paper was entitled 'The critical legacies of Asian feminism'. While in South Korea, Firdous Azim also

visited Gwangju, a city that has been named the Asian City of Culture, and participated in a brainstorming session on the events that the city could host in the future.

Visit by NDC

A thirty two member team had visited from the National Defense College (NDC) on July 24, 2005 for an interaction session to better understand the role of the private universities. Career Services Office had organized the half-day program. Chairs of different faculties, teachers and students were present at the program. Shah Mohammad Azlan, BBA student gave a presentation on 'Impact of Globalization on Education - A Student's Perspective'. The presentation was rewarded with a token of appreciation by the NDC team. Ms. Farzana Choudhury, Assistant Director Career Service coordinated the program while Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU was in the Chair.

Volleyball Competition

The inter-dorm volleyball competition was held on July 24, 2005 at BU Campus, Savar. Chhayaneer became champion while Dhansiri became runner up. Ali Amir Ali was adjudged the best player of the tournament.

BUEC in Comilla

The BRAC University Economics Club (BUEC) arranged a trip to Chandina, Comilla on July 22-23, 2005 in order to observe the workings of a newly formed NGO called Development Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation (DIPA). The students interviewed NGO members and non-NGO members within the area in order to get their views on the NGO's operation and progress. On their return, the students prepared a pilot report and presentation on DIPA's development to date in order to expand their analytical capacities.

BU Cultural Club

The winners of the BU Student Cultural Competition 2005 have recently entered the Bengal Foundation's "Sreejanshil Bangla gaaner protibha onneshan" competition in the Rabindra, Nazrul, Ponchokobi, Polli and Modern song sections on July 22-23, 2005.

MNS Seminar

The MNS Departmental Seminar was held on July 21, 2005. Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed was the speaker. The title was "Earthquake Prediction From Space Through Plasma Dynamics".

Angan Lecture 30

Uttam Kumar Saha presented his own work in the 30th lecture of Angan on July 21, 2005. Uttam Saha is a well-known architect of the country. He presented the works of the first 10 years of his practice. His work displays a great sensitivity to the local context in terms of the environment, materials and richness of culture. He is known to work with materials in their natural state without any application. The lecture was followed by a lively question answer session.

MGB Paper Presentation

Dr. Md. Forhad Hossain, Professor, Department of Statistics, Jahangirnagar University and Visiting Faculty, King Khaled University, Saudi Arabia presented a paper on "A New Approach to Determine Assymmetric Distribution: An Application to Students Evaluation of Teaching" on July 20, 2005.

Football Competition

The final football competition was held between Chhayaneer and Krishnochura on July 19, 2005 at Savar campus. Chhayaneer became champion while Krishnochura became runner up. Md. Shoibe Anwar from Chhayaneer was selected the best player.

Badminton Competition

Female badminton contest ended on July 18, 2005 at BU Campus, Savar. Nikunjo was adjudged as champion (double) while Maloncho was runner up and Maloncho (single) became champion (single) while Nikunjo became runner up.

"Battle of Minds" Meeting

British American Tobacco (BAT) is expected to hold a case competition called the 'Battle of Minds' on September 12, 2005. Ten private and public universities will participate in the event and BU is one of them. The preliminary meeting for the 'Battle of Minds' was held at BAT premise on July 17, 2005, attended by Professor Abdur Rab, Chair MGB and Ms. Farzana Choudhry, ADCS. BAT has selected BU as the venue for their competition. Four students will participate from each university and the winning team will get tickets to the assessment centre of BAT for job recruitment. BBA students: Fahmida Tani Ahmed, Jinea Akhter, Samir Abdur Rahman and Shah Mohammad Azlan will be participating in the forthcoming competition.

ARC Research Seminar 5

Michael Slingsby, Chief Technical Adviser of UNDP/UN-Habitat/LGED Local Partnership for Urban Poverty Alleviation Project in Bangladesh gave a talk on "Approaches to Urban Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh: Experiences of the Local Partnerships for Urban Poverty Alleviation Project" on July 18, 2005 in the research seminar organized by the research unit of Department of Architecture.

BUPC Exhibition: Summer 2005

BRAC University Photography Club [BUPC] arranged a weeklong photography exhibition from July 17-21, 2005. 17 photographs were displayed in the exhibition. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU inaugurated the exhibition. BUPC Patron Professor Fuad H. Mallick, BUPC Advisor A Q M Abdullah and Director of Students Affairs Dr. Zainab F Ali were also present in the inaugural ceremony.

BU Intra-University Computer Programming Contest

BRAC University Computer Club (BUCC) arranged an Intra-University Computer Programming Contest on July 17, 2005. Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU inaugurated the event. Dr Sayeed Salam (Patron, BUCC), Dr Mumit Khan (Advisor, BUCC), Mr. Syed Md. Ashraf Karim (Co-Advisor, BUCC), Ms. Bushra Tawfiq Chowdhury (Co-Advisor, BUCC), Mr. Md. Rafiqul Hasan Chowdhury (Assistant Registrar) and Mr. Md. Mafijul Islam Shaikat (Lecturer) were also present on the occasion. Khandaker Wasim Reza Tonmoy and Annajiat Alim Rasel organized the contest on behalf of the club. M. Abdur Rahman and Fahim Muhammad Hasan assisted in setting up the contest environment and in judging the events. The contest ran during 4:15pm-8:pm. The winners were 1st Md. Mahtab Uddin, 2nd Sarjil Mahmud and 3rd Mahdin Mahboob. Honorable Mention: 1st Md. Intekhabul Hafiz and 2nd Khan Md. Anwarus Salam. Top five scorers along with the judges and other volunteers were invited to Contest Dinner after the contest. Prizes were distributed before the dinner.

Round Table on Architectural Education

The Department of Architecture, North South University is association with Institute of Architects Bangladesh and New Age held a round table conference on 'The Education Of Architecture In Bangladesh-Future Direction' on July 14, 2005. Professor Fuad H Mallick and Dr. Zainab F Ali of the Department of Architecture, BU were the panelists at the conference amongst other eminent architects and academics. The concluding session of the conference was held on July 21, 2005.

MNS Seminar

The Department of MNS, BU organised a seminar on "Biotechnology, present status and prospects in Bangladesh" on July 14, 2005. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury of the Department was the keynote speaker.

Talk on Earthquake Hazard

Bangladesh Earthquake Society (BES) organised a talk on "A proposed new earthquake hazard study of Dhaka and Chittagong" on July 14, 2005. Dr. John W Whitney of US Geological Survey was the key speaker. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU was the Chair of the Program. Members of BES, BU faculty members and students of ARC were present.

Guest Lecture

As part of 'ARC293: music appreciation' course, Mr Guido Genrich, consul and cultural attache, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany gave a lecture on 'Western Classical Music' on July 13, 2005.

CS Dinner

Campus Super's Dinner of the Residential Semester was held on July 13, 2005. Guest of Honour was Mr. Aftab ul Islam, President, American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh. Mr. Islam addressed the students and spoke on 'How to Face the Challenges of the Twenty First Century Corporate Life'. Campus Superintendent, the teachers of the RS Program and RS students attended the Dinner.

MGB Presentation on IOS

Dr. Md. Mahbubur Rahim of School of Business Systems, Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University, Australia, offered a presentation on IOS Adoption in the Industry with reference to Automotive Industry in Australia on July 12, 2005. Professor Abdur Rab, Chair MGB chaired the program.

Quiz Competition

The final quiz competition of the Residential Semester was held on July 12, 2005. All five dorms participated in the contest. Chhayaneer came out champion and Dhansiri was adjudged as runner up.

Seminar on Higher Studies in the US

The department of ESS organized a talk on " Why not America for higher education?" on July 10, 2005. The speaker, Dr. David Ludden, a Professor of the University of Pennsylvania presented a very informative discussion about the scope, advantages and disadvantages, and educational, financial and visa requirements for higher education in the USA. The chairperson of the ESS department, Dr. Anwarul Hoque,

several faculty members of the department and a number of BU students were present.

Angan Lecture 29

A S M Ismail, Deputy Chief Architect of the Department of Architecture, Ministry of Public Works gave a lecture on "Public Architecture" on July 10, 2005. He presented a retrospective of the work of his department in the design of public buildings all over the country since its inception after the partition of India. Professor J R Choudhury VC BU, faculty members, students of ARC and architects (guests) attended the lecture.

Business Lecture

On July 10, 2005 Ms. Irfat Ali, Head of Operations of Global Suppliers Ltd, a company that has recently franchised A&W, fast food international chain spoke about her first hand experience of franchising A&W and the hurdles she had faced in the process. The information was particularly helpful for the BUS 101: Introduction to Business students who were studying about franchising. The program was organized by BU Career Service Office.

Participation in Dialogue by ENH Chairperson

Professor Firdous Azim, Chairperson, Department of English and Humanities took part in a dialogue on 'English Medium Education in Bangladesh' with Dr. Syed Khawaja Moinul Hassan from the Department of English, Claflin University, USA on July 8, 2005. The program was televised by Stamford University, Dhaka to be televised in the USA.

Presentation of Papers by ENH Lecturers in International Conference on English Teaching

3rd International Conference on 'The Effective Teaching of English in Bangladesh: Pedagogy and Practice' arranged by Stamford University in cooperation with BELTA was held on July 9, 2005. B. Tasnuva Arafeen, Lecturer, ENH presented a paper on "Developing ELT materials for classrooms at the tertiary level". Ms. Shuchi Karim and Ms. Tabassum Zaman, both Lecturers from the same department presented a joint paper on "Teaching language from literature background: Bringing the Best of two Worlds".

ESS Workshop in Rajendrapur

The Department of Economics and Social Science (ESS) held a two-day research workshop at Rajendrapur during July 07-08, 2005. The objective of the workshop was to allow for the development of research initiatives, especially at the faculty, but also at the student level. All full-time ESS faculty members and 6 junior/senior level students were present at the workshop. Areas of interest and research topics were identified and work on them is in progress.

VC Meets the Student Representatives of Clubs and Forums

Professor J R Choudhury, VC BU met the Student Representatives of Clubs and Forums in two sessions, on June 23 and July 07, 2005. Representatives of the seventeen BU clubs and forums and the BU student newsletter team were present in the meetings where the programs and special needs of the clubs and forums were discussed.

MGB Seminar

Dr. Shams Rahman, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Logistics Management Programme at the Graduate School of Business & Professional Development at the University of Wollongong, Australia presented a paper on "Supply Chain Management" on July 07, 2005.

ESS Research Initiatives Workshop

ESS research initiatives workshop held in retreat at BCDM, Rajendrapur, on July 07-08, 2005. In this workshop the participants have identified four distinct but broad research areas under which research projects developed by the members (faculty and students) of the Economic and Social Science Research Group (ESSRG). The four selected research areas are: Child labour, Seasonal Migration, Sectoral Differentiation, and Micro-governance in Development. The ESSRG members were engaged in developing short research proposals for submission within the deadline.

CSE Student Presents Paper in International Seminar

Naushad UzZaman, a student of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), traveled to Calgary, Canada to attend the Fourth IASTED International Conference on Computational Intelligence from July 4-6, 2005. Naushad presented a paper titled "A Double Metaphone Encoding for Approximate Name Searching and Matching in Bangla", summarizing some of the results of his undergraduate thesis project. The paper was co-authored by Dr. Mumit Khan, Associate Professor of CSE. Naushad's trip was funded by BRAC University with support from Southtech Limited and PAN Localization Project grant from the International Development Research Center (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada.

Midterm Exams, Summer 2005

Midterm Exams of Summer 2005 started from July 03, 2005 and finished on July 07, 2005. During the week, classes and other regular activities were also held as per schedule.

Participation in Regional Workshop on Women's Studies

Ms. Shuchi Karim, Lecturer, ENH, took part in a 'Regional Workshop on Curriculum Development' organised by the Department of Women's Studies, University of Dhaka from July 6-8, 2005.

Ex Student of ARC Receives Honour at American University

Raihan Alamgir an ex student of the Architecture Department at BU who transferred his credits to Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, USA on July 02, 2005 has earned himself a position in the Presidents List of the Institute with a GPA of 3.74. It is worth mentioning that Raihan scored high grades while he was at BU. He was also the drummer and composer of the award winning band 'Subconscious'.

New Appointment

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury has joined BU as a Professor in the Department of MNS on July 02, 2005. Professor Choudhury has a Ph.D. in Biotechnology from University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. He taught in Dhaka University and BUET and was the Chairman of Department of Microbiology, Dhaka University. He was the Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission from August 2002 to September 2003. Professor Choudhury has 151 Publications to his credit. He has been a member of New York Academy of Sciences, American Society of Microbiology and British Society for Applied Bacteriology.

BRAC Project Visit

A total of 130 BU students were divided into two groups and visited BRAC projects in Manikgang and Gazipur on July 2, 2005.