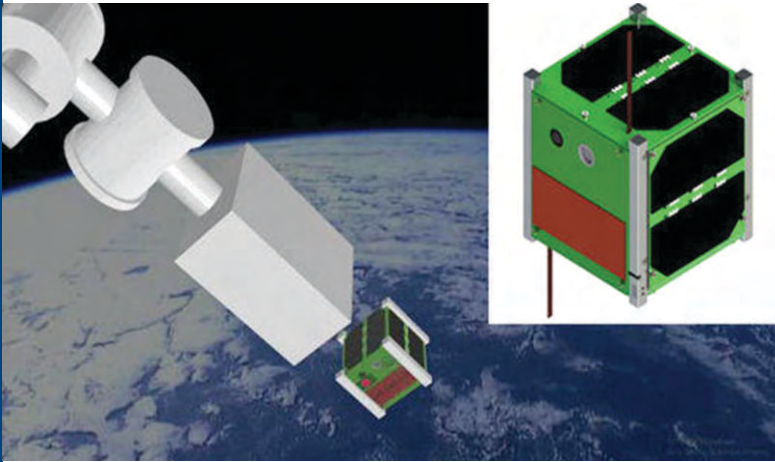




Inspiring Excellence

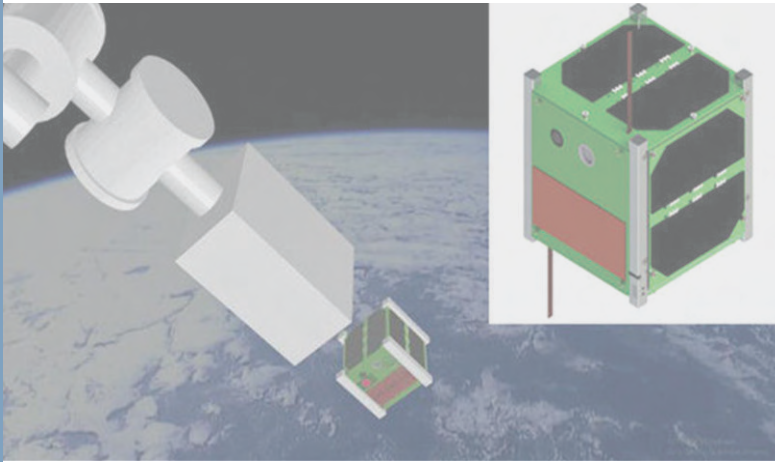


ANNUAL REPORT 2016





Inspiring Excellence



ANNUAL REPORT 2016



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Inspiring Excellence

Statement of Chairperson Board of Trustees



Since its inception in 2001, BRAC University has become one of the most reputed educational institutions in Bangladesh. We have focused on generating new knowledge and promoting critical thinking amongst our students, graduating more than 7,000 young men and women during this time. At present, the total number of students is around 8,000.

Our goal at BRAC University is not only to provide the highest quality teaching in the region, but also to inculcate the values essential for tomorrow's leaders. Through a liberal education, we endeavour to produce graduates with the attributes needed to achieve personal success and make a valuable contribution to society. Our talented and dedicated faculty play a critical role in both these processes.

I am pleased to report that the construction of the new University campus, comprising a 14-storey building of 17 lakh square feet on 5 acres of land, is well under way. We hope to relocate by mid-2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Hasan', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed
Chairperson, Board of Trustees
BRAC University

Inspiring Excellence

Statement of Vice Chancellor



It has been a rewarding year in 2016 for BRAC University (BRACU) as it enters new realms of engagement and accomplishments. Entrusted by the Board of Trustees (BoT) to build a university of repute that is recognized in Bangladesh and beyond, our strategy has evolved to focus on several key components:

- 1) Nurturing high quality faculty
- 2) Admitting students who meet decent academic standards
- 3) Building a high quality and supportive administrative team
- 4) Introducing innovative and challenging educational programs
- 5) Ensuring sufficiency of resources and providing modern facilities

By coordinating and energizing these five elements, we can be better at reflecting the qualities of what “great” universities of the world embody. The journey has just begun, and while it will take many turns, we must remain steadfast and focused, reaching for higher levels of accomplishment at each stage of the University's progression.

To coordinate the five-pronged strategy, we have embarked on several “priority” projects, in addition to the regular work of BRACU. These include:

- a. New campus construction with an iconic and state-of-the-art building
- b. Professional/andragogy skills development of “all” faculty, leading to certification
- c. Core skill development of students (and faculty) through the Gen Ed program
- d. Curriculum revision and upgrading by benchmarking with a target institution
- e. IT integration and new applications to enhance technological sophistication
- f. Internationalization of our student and faculty community
- g. Student and alumni engagement in projects for social impact
- h. Modern HR system focusing on performance-based governance
- i. Research

It is an exhilarating time for all of us to see the University making confident strides into the future. Onnesha, the first nano-satellite built in Bangladesh by BRACU, is getting ready for its space debut; the largest cohort of “better quality” students have entered the university in Spring 2017; research grants and scholarships are coming in steadily from both local and international bodies; international institutions -- UC Berkeley in research, University of Michigan's Ross Business School in helping us build an Entrepreneurship Program; and special partnerships in Europe (Umea, Sweden), Australia (Macquarie University, University of Canberra), Japan (Kyushu University), and USA (Georgetown and others) -- are building bridges with us; the University Grants Commission (UGC) along with the British Council have shown deep interest in our teaching-learning initiatives; our expertise is sought in developing “Strategy for Higher Education in Bangladesh;” invitations are coming from AMDISA (Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai) to share our experiences and join their efforts to spread quality education; Chief Executives of corporate bodies in Bangladesh are advising different academic units; some departments are forging industry-academy partnerships – the list is long and growing!

Creative activities are also evolving in the various departments, centers, institutes, and the Savar Residential Semester program that are truly indicative of our potential. The schools and institutes are pursuing pioneering programs of their own (in governance, public health, early childhood development, etc.). Student clubs are reaching out to various communities as change makers.

One of my dreams is to be listed in the Times Higher Education ranking in the South Asian pool of universities as a start – a goal I boldly placed to all at BRACU to help achieve. To reach this goal I shall leave no stone unturned. Publishing in quality peer-reviewed (SCOPUS and similar) journals is an important pathway to reaching this goal. We are also refurbishing and (re)launching several graduate degree programs to spearhead innovative research activities.

It is important at this juncture to reiterate our commitments. We all – teachers, researchers, administrators, and support staff – have a vital role to play in the life of the students by providing a warm, welcoming, nurturing, and challenging environment for them to grow as responsible, caring, creative and respectful citizens. We must treat them well and certainly with respect. Our main goal is to ensure the SUCCESS of our students, empowering them with knowledge and life skills so that they can look after themselves and their families upon graduation and take up the challenging and glorious task of nation-building.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank “all” members of the BRAC University family who make institution building exciting and fulfilling. It is for your efforts that we are among the preferred academic destinations for Bangladesh's aspiring students. Soon, I hope, we will be a beacon of excellence for students of the region (SAARC) and extend ourselves into ASEAN, APEC and beyond. By engaging in many creative accomplishments and constantly adding value to the university experience. I trust our work will encapsulate what we stand for: **Inspiring Excellence!**



Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor



Inspiring Excellence



Inspiring Excellence





Inspiring Excellence

GOVERNANCE

Board of Trustees
Syndicate
Academic Council

GOVERNANCE

Chancellor

Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid

Hon'ble President, People's Republic of Bangladesh

Vice Chancellor

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Current Charge)

Professor Farhat M. Iftekharuddin, Ph.D.

Treasurer

Mr. Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar

Registrar

Muhammad Sahool Afzal

Major General (Retired)

Board of Trustees

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



Chairperson

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG

Founder & Chairperson, BRAC

Members



Mr. Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury

Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of Bangladesh
Former Secretary, Government of Bangladesh and
Former Executive Director, BRAC



Professor Salma Khan

Chairperson
NGO Coalition on Beijing PFA



Professor Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury, Ph.D.

Vice Chairperson, BRAC



Advocate Sultana Kamal

Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of Bangladesh and
Former Executive Director
Ain o Salish Kendro (ASK)



Professor Anisuzzaman, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus
Dhaka University



Ms. Tamara Hasan Abed

Senior Director, Enterprises
BRAC



Mr. Faruq A. Choudhury

Chairman
Delta BRAC Housing



Ms. Sadaf Saaz Siddiqi

Director & Producer, Dhaka Lit Fest
Poet & Writer, Culture & Curator Activist
and Entrepreneur and
an Alumni of BRACU



Ms. Rasheda K. Choudhury

Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of Bangladesh and
Executive Director, Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE)



Member (ex-officio)

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor
BRAC University



Secretary

Muhammad Sahool Afzal

Major General (Retired)

Registrar

BRAC University

MEETINGS

Four meetings of the Board of Trustees took place on 22 March, 21 June, 27 October and 27 December, 2016.

SYNDICATE

The Syndicate is the highest executive body that exercises administrative and supervisory control on academic, administrative and management activities of the University.

Chairperson

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor, BRAC University

Members

Professor Anisuzzaman, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus
Dhaka University

Mr. Faruq A. Choudhury

Chairman
Delta BRAC Housing

Professor Shafique uz Zaman, Ph.D.

Department of Economics
Dhaka University

Mr. Md. Helal Uddin

Additional Secretary
Ministry of Education
Bangladesh Secretariat

Ms. Tamara Hasan Abed

Senior Director, Enterprises
BRAC

Professor Farhat M. Iftakharuddin, Ph.D.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Current Charge)
BRAC University

Mr. Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar

Treasurer
BRAC University

Professor K. Shamsuddin Mahmood

Dean
School of Law
BRAC University

Professor Firdous Azim, Ph.D.

Chairperson
Department of English and Humanities
BRAC University

Professor Eva Rahman Kabir, Ph.D.

Chairperson (Current charge)
Department of Pharmacy
BRAC University

Member Secretary

Muhammad Sahool Afzal

Major General (Retired)
Registrar
BRAC University

MEETINGS

Four meetings of the Syndicate took place on 10 March, 16 June, 13 October and 01 December, 2016.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

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

Chairperson

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor, BRAC University

Members

Professor Farhat M. Iftekharuddin, Ph.D.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Current Charge)
BRAC University

Ms. Rasheda K. Choudhury

Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of Bangladesh and
Executive Director, Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE)

Professor Salma Khan

Chairperson
NGO Coalition on Beijing PFA

Professor Iqbal Mahmud, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus & Ex-Vice Chancellor
BUET

Dr. John D Clemens

Executive Director
icddr,b

Professor Sabina F. Rashid, Ph.D.

Dean
James P Grant School of Public Health
BRAC University

Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman

Executive Director
BRAC Institute of Governance and Development
BRAC University

Professor A. A. Ziauddin Ahmad

Chairperson
Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
BRAC University

Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D.

Director
IQAC
BRAC University

Professor Firdous Azim, Ph.D.

Chairperson
Department of English and Humanities
BRAC University

Professor Rahim B. Talukder, Ph.D.

Adviser
BRAC Business School
BRAC University

Professor Shaheda Rahman

Chairperson
Department of Architecture
BRAC University

Professor Eva Rahman Kabir, Ph.D.

Chairperson (Current charge)
Department of Pharmacy
BRAC University

Professor Abdul Bayes

Chairperson (acting)
Department of Economics and Social Sciences
BRAC University

Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed

Director
BRAC Institute of Languages
BRAC University

Professor K. Shamsuddin Mahmood

Dean
School of Law
BRAC University

Dr. Erum Mariam

Director
BRAC Institute of Educational Development
BRAC University

Member Secretary

Muhammad Sahool Afzal

Major General (Retired)
Registrar
BRAC University

MEETINGS

Four meetings of the Academic Council took place on 02 March, 14 June, 6 October and 30 November, 2016.

Interpretation of Design of BRACU Logo

The arc of the circle suggests the wish to disseminate 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 broad -based education has been emphasized here. The suggestive drawing of open books stresses a disciplined and dynamic development of education.



Inspiring Excellence

The three colors used in the design- blue, black and silver; 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.

The BRACU logo was designed by renowned artist Mr. Hashem Khan in 2001.

A TAG LINE, 'Inspiring Excellence' was added at the bottom of the Logo on the suggestion of Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D. Vice Chancellor, BRAC University with due approval of Mr. Hashem Khan, Syndicate & BoT on 23 March 2015.

BRACU Anthem

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

Inspiring Excellence

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

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

কথা : আমির ইবনে শরীফ, প্রভাষক, স্থাপত্য বিভাগ, ২০০৬

সুর : শামস্ মনসুর গনি, প্রভাষক, স্থাপত্য বিভাগ, ২০০৬

Profile of BRAC University

BACKGROUND

BRAC University (BRACU) was established in 2001. It follows a liberal arts approach to education, which nurtures fresh ideas and gives new impetus to tertiary education. It ensures a high quality of education and aims to meet the demands of contemporary times. Building on BRAC's experience of seeking solutions to challenges posed by extreme poverty, BRACU hopes to instill in its students a commitment to working towards national development and progress. 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 and 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 to ensure a dynamic teaching environment. Faculty are provided with an environment in which they can further their teaching-learning skills and contribute to the creation of new knowledge by developing and using their research abilities.

Schools

- BRAC Business School (BBS)
- James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH)
- School of Engineering & Computer Science (SECS)
- School of Law (SOL)

Academic Departments

- Department of Architecture (ARC)
- Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)
- Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS)

- Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)
- Department of English and Humanities (ENH)
- Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS)
- Department of Pharmacy (PHR)

Institutes

- BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED)
- BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)
- BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL)

Centres

- Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)
- Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED)
- Control & Applications Research Centre (CARC)
- Professional Development Centre (PDC)
- Centre for Gender and Social Transformation (CGST)
- Centre of Excellence for Universal Health Coverage
- Centre for Health Systems (CHS)
- Centre for Gender Sexuality and HIV/AIDS
- Global Development Learning Networking Centre (GDLN)
- Writing Centre (WC)

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Architecture
- Bachelor of Arts in English
- Bachelor of Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communication Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics and Electronics
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
- Bachelor of Science in Physics

- Bachelor of Social Science in Economics
- Bachelor of Laws
- Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)
- Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science in Microbiology
- Bachelor of Social Sciences in Anthropology

Graduate Programmes

- Master of Arts in English
- Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
- Master of Science in Applied Economics
- Master of Science in Biotechnology
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Bank Management
- Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA)
- Master of Science in Computer Science and Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Computer Science and Engineering
- Master in Computer Application
- Master of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Development Studies
- Master of Arts in Governance and Development
- Master of Education in Educational Leadership and School Improvement
- Master of Science in Early Childhood Development

- Master in Disaster Management
- Master in Development Management and Practice
- Master in Procurement and Supply Management

Postgraduate Diploma Programmes/Certificate Courses

- Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership and School Improvement
- Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Development
- Postgraduate Diploma in Disaster Management
- Postgraduate Diploma in Macroeconomic Analysis
- Postgraduate Diploma in Development Management
- Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science and Information Technology
- Postgraduate Diploma in Bank Management and IT
- Postgraduate Diploma in South Asian Development and Cooperation
- Postgraduate Certificate in Disaster Management
- Certificate in Early Childhood Development
- Certificate Course in Construction Management
- Certificate Course in Bengali, English, Chinese, French, Spanish, Korean and Arabic Language

Inspiring Excellence

Highlights of 2016

A number of initiatives, events and activities have taken place in 2016. The impact and benefits of some of these activities have already been observed while others are in the process of being implemented. It goes without saying that all these activities or initiatives are part of a continuous improvement process for the University. A brief outline of all these activities/ initiatives is given below:

Update and Modernization of Curriculum: The process of updating and modernizing the curriculum started in 2015 and was completed in 2016. The principal focus of the updating process was to extricate maximum effectiveness for the students and it considered the latest technology and education pedagogies as its framework. While designing the new curriculum, it was specially taken into account that the curriculum helped students develop skills and strength in diverse sectors, even beyond their respective disciplines. Keeping this in mind, ethical, humanitarian, analytical and communication skills were incorporated into the curriculum design. Some of these curricula are awaiting UGC approval while others are in the process of being sent to UGC.

Certificate in Higher Education Teaching (CHET): In 2016, BRACU started providing a certificate training programme, titled “Certificate in Higher Education Teaching” (CHET), to help faculty members develop their teaching skills. This semester-long programme aims to provide opportunity, on the one hand, to the highly skilled faculty members to further improve their teaching skills by sharing their experience and knowledge, and on the other hand to the new faculty members to equip themselves with these tested techniques and ideas. This programme designed also ensures that it helps the faculty members redesign their course plans and techniques of course delivery in accordance to updated teaching pedagogies. By the end of 2016, 60 faculty members have already completed this program successfully.

Institutional Quality Assurance Cell: Since its inauguration in 2015, this cell has initiated various activities, contributing to the development of the university in collaboration with different departments. In 2016, this cell organized several workshops and seminars as part of their activities.

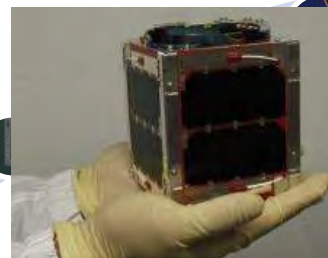
Best Faculty, Researcher and Staff Award: BRACU has started a practice of recognizing its best faculty, researcher and staff for their outstanding contributions to the university through an organized function. The recipients of awards in three different categories are Dr. Hasibun Naher, Assistant Professor, Department of MNS, best researcher, Ms. Hasina Afroz University Librarian, best staff and Ms. Zara Sheikh, Senior Lecturer, Department of PHR, best teacher.



Scholars Program: Under this title, 30 students have participated in special courses, simultaneously with their usual courses, to undertake special trainings through workshop and seminars conducted by experienced trainers to enhance leadership skills.

Nano-satellite: In 2016, under the supervision of the department of Computer Science and Engineering, a Nano-satellite creating process has been started. With the financial support of BRACU and the technical support of the Kyushu Institute of Technology (Kyutech) of Japan, 4 students are being specially trained under a researcher in Japan. This Nano-satellite will help study the weather update and provide support to agricultural

Satellite is ready for testing



development and other similar purpose. It is to be specially noted that BRACU is the first institution/organization in Bangladesh to have taken such an initiative.

Implying New Laws and Regulation and Developing New Work Plan and Principles: In 2016, BRACU revised its work principles and implied some new work procedure to update the rules and regulation. Some remarks of them are enlisted below:

- a. updating the study-leave policy
- b. strict implementation of plagiarism policy
- c. student internship policy
- d. faculty-fellowship policy
- e. research work and social service policy
- f. course reduction policy

Introducing New Program: BRACU has introduced new programs for the Master's study, which has already been sent for the approval of the UGC. The proposed programs are enlisted below–

- a. Master of Laws
- b. Masters in Drug Development and Pharma Management

BRACU New Campus: The construction process of creating BRACU new campus is going on its full strength and it is a possibility that all the construction work will be completed and could be inaugurated in 2020.



GenEd Programme: In 2016, BRACU, as part of updating the curricula, worked on incorporating General Education (GenEd) courses in all undergraduate programmes. The goal is to provide five sets of skills (Communication, Critical Thinking, Mathematical Skills, Technological Awareness and Global Awareness) to all students, irrespective of their disciplines, to prepare them for the job market and to increase their social awareness.

Immersion in Development Programme: BRACU developed this new programme for local and international students, development professionals and executives seeking to translate concepts of governance and development into specific implementable action plans. The programme focuses on practical learning through fieldwork for experiencing development paradigms, strategies and governance at the field level. The programme has been approved by the Board of Trustees and will begin from the middle of 2017.

Revision of HR Policy: In 2016, BRACU revised the HR policy especially focusing on performance evaluation and promotion process of all faculty and staff members. In the new system, the university focuses on output and a 360° evaluation by different stakeholders.

IT Integration: In 2016, the university shifted from its dependency on other service providers to a self-sufficient and strong IT department. Previously, the IT department services were sub-contracted to service providers. As this mode proved to be inefficient and costly, the contract was terminated, and the university IT department upgraded its own team to cater to all of the different needs of the university such as network security, troubleshooting all gadgets, data centre, student information services, academic support, website and software development. With recent improvements to the in-house infrastructure of the hardware and software maintenance teams, BRACU has been able to not only cut down its costs but also expand its horizon to all avenues of IT services.

BRAC Onnesha

As part of its academic endeavors, BRAC University (BRACU) took up an initiative to start space and remote sensing research in collaboration with Kyushu Institute of Technology (Kyutech), Japan and Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organization (SPARRSO) three years back.

Three students from BRACU, Abdulla Hil Kafi, Raihana Islam Antara and Maisun Ibne Monowar -- went to Kyutech, Japan to design, develop and assemble Bangladesh's first nano-satellite, BRAC ONNESHA, a cube of 10cm edge capable of completing one orbit 400 kilometres above the ground in 90 minutes and passing over Bangladesh four-six times in 24 hours. Dr. Arifur Rahman Khan, Assistant Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, USA, was the Initiator and Dr Md. Khalilur Rahman, Associate Professor, Department of CSE, BRACU is the Principal Investigator of the Project.

BRACU also started building a corresponding ground station in its Mohakhali campus from where it will be possible to:

- Take high quality photographs of land to analyze vegetation, urbanization, flood, water resources, forestry etc.

- Relay audio signals and attain communication through HAM radio during emergencies and catastrophe and play the national anthem on days of national importance.
- Observe space environment
- Monitor satellite location
- Demonstrate Ground Station Network for nano-satellite constellation
- Attain multi-point simultaneous space environment measurement

This cross-border interdisciplinary satellite project was supported by Japan for four non-space faring countries and was titled "Joint Global Multi-Nation BIRDS Satellite" or "BIRDS Project".

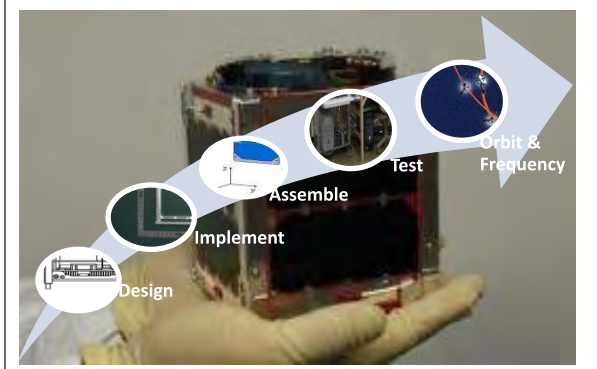
CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY OF NATION'S FIRST NANO SATELLITE PROJECT AT BRAC UNIVERSITY

On 15 June 2016, Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor, BRAC University signed a contract with the Kyutech, Japan for developing nano-satellite jointly.

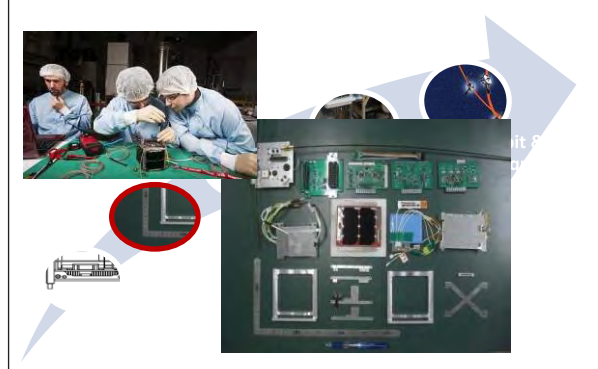
Team with BoT Chairperson



Satellite Development Steps



Development of each module



BRACU New Campus Project



Background

Being recognized as a 'beautiful campus' goes beyond just having curb appeal. A spectacular campus augments a university's image, thereby attracting more students, teachers and visitors.

Since its inception, BRACU had a vision to build a world class university campus. However, it was very difficult to manage suitable land for the campus in Dhaka city. Following serious efforts by BRAC, it was possible to procure a piece of land suitably located at the city centre. Finally, this dream campus has started to turn into reality and construction has started.

WOHA Designs Pte Ltd., a Singapore based world-renowned architectural firm and winner of many prestigious international awards for excellence in designs, was appointed as the design architect in May 2012 to design the BRACU new campus. Jalal Architects Ltd. was then engaged as the local architect to provide local support to the design architect. Transsolar, also a reputed international climate engineering consultant, was engaged as the climate engineering consultant to assist the design team in making the structure eco-friendly and energy efficient.

Location

The new BRACU campus is located in the Centre of Communication at KHA 224, Progati Sarani, Dhaka, in close proximity to Hatirjhil, Badda,

Rampura, Aftabnagar, Niketon, Mohakhali, Gulshan, Banani and Baridhara Residential Areas.

Area of land

The total land area is approximately 5.18 acres or 2087 4. 7 sqm. The construction area (3 basements and 13 floors above the ground) is approximately 1.6 million Sqft.

Description of the Campus and Building

It is a 13 storey building with 3 basements. There is an auditorium with 700 seats, a multipurpose hall with 1850 seats, 135 classrooms, 41 labs, 10 design studios, 6 lecture theatres, 475 car parking places, rooftop playground, park, vertical transportation, generators, substations, IT servers, UPS, CCTVs, solar panels, lifts, escalators, stairs, fire escapes, faculty and administrative offices, teacher lounges, a cafeteria, an e-library, recreation facilities and a lake. It has facilities to accommodate around 15,000 students. It is a green conceptual building where natural light and air can easily flow into the building. Almost 50% of the land is used for building and the rest for water body, lake, plantation and other purposes; which will protect biodiversity. The advanced, eco-friendly and attractive campus will enhance the university spirit, thereby creating a healthy and positive environment for the students.

Campus Development Committee

For developing of BRACU's new campus, a Campus Development Committee (CDC) is working round the clock. Vice Chancellor of BRACU is the

chair of the committee. The members of the committee are Pro-VC, Treasurer, CFO BRAC & BRAC International, Registrar BRACU of Project Director, Project Adviser, Additional Chief Engineer BRAC, Director Finance, BRACU, Consultant, etc. The Committee reviews progress and takes major decisions. CDC is the main driving force behind the new campus.

BRACU Donates Land to DESCO for Sub-Station

BRACU had donated 19 decimal lands to DESCO for setting up sub-station in the BRACU Campus area. Through this substation DESCO will supply uninterrupted electricity to BRACU new campus and the surrounding neighborhood.

Construction updates

Construction work of BRACU's new campus started in full swing after a formal construction commencement announcement made by Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG, Founder & Chairperson, BRAC, and Chairperson, Board of Trustees, BRACU at BRAC Centre Conference Room on 22 December 2015.

In Phase-I, Piling work started in May 2016. Out of 648 piles 562 piles have been completed. Of the 101 segments of D-wall 68 segments have already been constructed. The Phase-I construction is expected to be completed by 15 May 2017. Phase-II and the main construction shall commence from 1st June 2017.



11th Convocation, BRAC University 2016



The 11th Convocation of BRAC University took place at the International Convention City Bashundhara (Naboratri, Hall-04), Dhaka on 05 December 2016. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh nominated by Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid, Hon'ble President People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chancellor of BRAC University, was present as the Chief Guest and presided over the ceremony. Professor Abdul Mannan Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh was present as the Hon'ble Guest. Ms. Shabana Azmi Actor and Social Activist graced the occasion as the Convocation Speaker.

This much-anticipated event saw the formal graduation of 1282 students with Zainab Syed Ahmed (B-Pharm) and Rafiath Rashid (MSc-ECD) receiving the Chancellor's Gold Medal and a further twenty-seven achievers (12 Undergraduates and 15 Postgraduates) from different departments receiving the Vice Chancellor's Medal. Five thousand guests, graduating students and their parents/guardians were joined by staff, faculty members, distinguished guests and media representatives.



The Convocation procession



Beaming graduates: the smiles say it all!

The Chief Guest joined the Convocation Procession after greeting members of Board of Trustees, Syndicate and Academic Council. As the Chief Guest assumed his place on stage, the national anthem was played and the formal declaration of opening of the 11th Convocation was made by the Cheif Guest.

In his address, the Chief Guest and Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education lauded the achievements of BRAC University in these words, 'আজ আমাদের সবচেয়ে বড় চ্যালেঞ্জ হচ্ছে শিক্ষার গুণগত মান বৃদ্ধি করা, যা ব্র্যাক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অত্যন্ত অল্প সময়ের মধ্যে বাস্তবায়ন করতে সক্ষম হয়েছে। দেশে মান সম্পন্ন শিক্ষার জন্য যারা কাজ করে



যাচ্ছেন তাদের অন্যতম হচ্ছে ব্র্যাক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়। এই অবদানের জন্য ব্র্যাক পরিবারকে জানাই আমার আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন। আমি অত্যন্ত আনন্দিত যে ব্র্যাক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে নৈতিক শিক্ষা এবং বাংলাদেশের ইতিহাসসমূহ বাধ্যতামূলক করা হয়েছে।'



While addressing the Convocation UGC Chairman observed 'ব্র্যাক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় বাংলাদেশের অন্যতম শীর্ষ বেসরকারী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়। দেশের পাশাপাশি আন্তর্জাতিক পরিমন্ডলেও পরিচিতি লাভের বিরল গৌরব তা ইতিমধ্যেই অর্জন করেছে'।



Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG, Chairperson, BoT, BRACU, in his speech said, "I urge you to keep in mind that there is always an obligation beyond self. It is what you contribute to society that will engrave you in the collective memory, not what you have achieved for yourselves. We expect great things from you, and I am confident you will make us proud."



Ms. Shabana Azmi, the Convocation Speaker advised the graduates to follow their own passion and take responsibility for the society. She quoted India's Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi as saying, 'Be the change that you wish to see in the world.'



The Vice Chancellor, Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, in his welcome speech inspired students by stating; "We too must take responsibility for many of our social ills; it is here where I hope that you – the graduating students and your cohorts, the new leaders – will have the courage and conscience to do the right things and the things right'.



Sir Fazle Hasan Abed (Chair, BoT) hands over crest to the Hon'ble Chief Guest.



Sir Fazle Hasan Abed (Chair, BoT) hands over crest to the Convocation Speaker



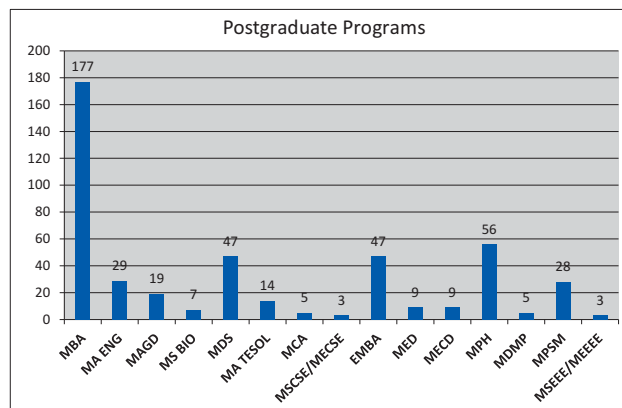
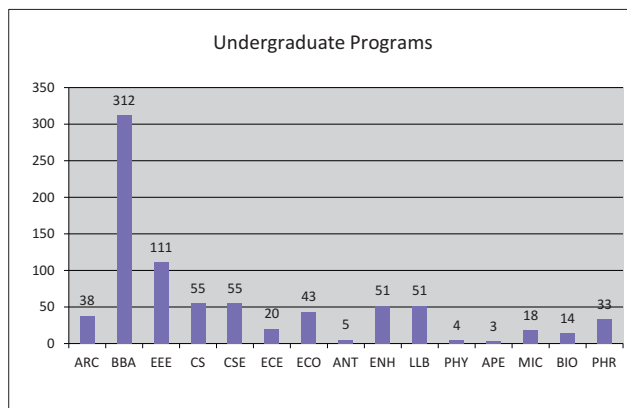
Graduates of 2016



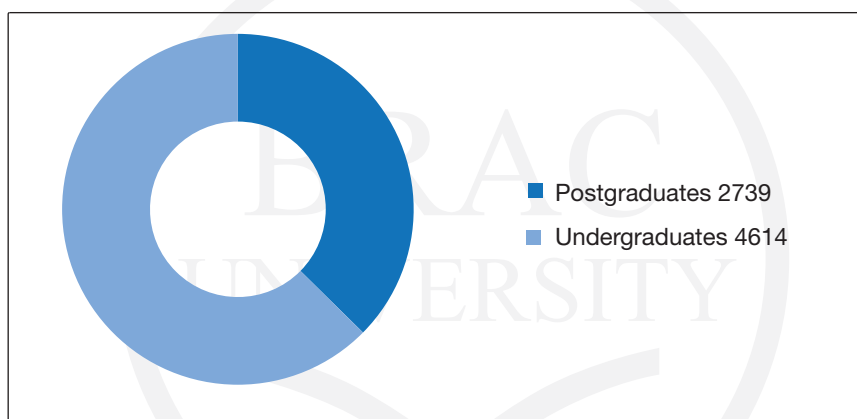
The Chief Guest awarding gold medals to the proud recipients: Zainab Syed Ahmed of B-Pharm (left) and Rafiath Rashid of MSc-ECD (right)



UGC Chairman, Chairperson of BoT, Chief Guest & Vice Chancellor of BRACU



Graduating Students Status 2016



Total Number of BRACU Graduates 2006-2016

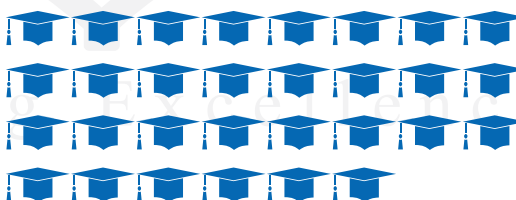
Convocation Graduates

1st (2006)



115

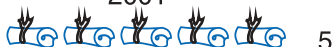
11th (2016)



1282

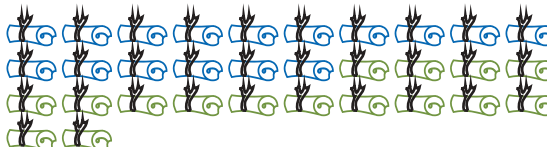
Number of Academic Degrees offered by BRACU

2001



5

2016



30



Undergraduate Degrees



Postgraduate Degrees



Inspiring Excellence

SCHOOLS

BRAC Business School (BBS)
James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH)
School of Law (SoL)

BRAC Business School



BBS (BBS) aims to improve effectiveness and efficiency of managing business and non-business organizations through excellence in business education, training, research and advisory services in preparing their future managers. BBS has a long tradition of academic excellence. Students countrywide are attracted to BBS for its focus on delivering relevant and time-applicable education.

The academic programmes that are currently offered are Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Master of Business Administration (MBA), Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) and Master of Bank Management. The areas of specialization of the school are Accounting, Finance, Marketing, E-business, Human Resources Management, Computer Information Management, Entrepreneurship and Operations Management and International Business.

The growth of BBS can be seen in the table provided below:

New Student Enrollment by Trimester				Total
	BBA	MBA	EMBA	
Spring 2016	194	56	17	267
Summer 2016	184	71	17	272
Fall 2016	104	75	24	203
Total	482	202	58	742
Graduated in 2016	312	177	47	536

Highlights of 2016

Seminars & Events:

Seminar on “Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainable Growth of the Pharmaceutical Industry in Bangladesh”

A top management level seminar on “Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainable Growth of the Pharmaceutical Industry in Bangladesh” was held on 09 January 2016 organized by BRACU. Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Vice Chancellor, BRACU, Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Ph.D., Adviser, BBS (BBS), Professor Hafiz G. A. Siddiki, Professor Emeritus, BBS, Keynote speaker-Professor Mahmud Hassan, Rutgers Business School, USA, Professor Syed Fahat Anwar, IBA, Dhaka University (DU), Mr. Mohammad Rezaur Razzak, Head of Operations, BBS, Dr. Eva Rahman Kabir, Chairperson, Department of Pharmacy, BRACU, S. M. Arifuzzaman, Coordinator, Internship Committee, BBS adorned the ceremony. Nazmul Hasan MP, President of Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Industries Association, was present as a guest speaker.

Seminar on 'Importance of Service Marketing to Make a Sustainable Business'

BRACU Business Club (BIZ BEE) organized a seminar on 'Importance of Service Marketing to Make a Sustainable Business' on 26 January 2016. The keynote speaker in this event was Dr. Mohammed Tareque Aziz, Associate Professor of

Relationship Marketing, BBS. Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, adviser of BBS was present as the chief guest.

Seminar on “E-Commerce in Bangladesh”

BIZ BEE had directed a seminar on 'E-Commerce in Bangladesh' on 17 February 2016. The keynote speaker in this event was Mr. Quazi Zulquarnain Islam, Country Manager of Kaymu Bangladesh. Mr. Razib Ahmed, President of E-commerce Association of Bangladesh (ECAB), was also present at the event as the chief guest. Other faculty members were also present at this event. Mr. Noman Hossain Chowdhury, Senior Lecturer, BBS briefly explained the e-commerce industry to the audience.

The seminar was designed for the university students so that they can develop an enhanced knowledge about the globally emerging business sector, e-commerce and make an accurate evaluation of its engagement in Bangladesh.

Seminar on “Review of Monetary Policy”

BRACU Business and Economics Forum (BEF) organized this seminar on 9 March 2016. The programme was presided over by Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, former Governor of Bangladesh Bank and Professor of BBS, BRACU, Mr. S. M. Arifuzzaman, Assistant Professor, BBS, Adviser of BEF, Mr Fairuz Chowdhury, Lecturer, BBS, Mr. Shamim Ahmed, the President of BEF, Vice Presidents and all the members of BEF and the students of various departments of BRACU were also present at the lecture.

BBS Adviser Visited Canadian Business School

Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Adviser, BBS paid a visit to Peter B. Gustavson School of Business, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada on 20 July 2016. Professor Talukdar had meetings with Dean Saul Klein and the Associate Director of MBA programme, Mr. Ivan Robertson. He also discussed developing academic collaboration between Gustavson Business School and BBS in the near future.

BBS Adviser Visits University of British Columbia Business School, Canada

Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Adviser, BBS, went to the Sauder School of Business of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada on 11 August 2016. He had valuable interactions with some of the senior management officials of the School and

discussed the BBS programmes and possible linkage with the school in future.

Dr. Fazley Siddiq, Professor of University of New Brunswick visited BBS

BBS invited Dr. Fazley Siddiq, Professor of University of New Brunswick, to give a speech on academic accreditation and PhD admission process to the faculty members of BBS on 16 August 2016. Vice Chancellor, Professor Saad Andaleeb and Dr. Md. Tareque Aziz, Associate Professor and Head of Operations of BBS were present in the session along with other faculty members. In his speech, Dr. Siddiq talked about the process, advantages and challenges of getting AACSB accreditation.

Teaching Pedagogy session at BBS

BBS arranged a session on “Teaching Pedagogy” as a knowledge dissemination initiative open for all the faculty members of BBS on 29 September 2016 at BBS conference room. Assistant Professor Mahreen Mamoon conducted the seminar. BBS Adviser Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Associate Professor and Head of Operations, Dr. Tareque Aziz attended the session along with twelve faculty members. The session focused on the necessity of shifting from teacher-centred approach to more student-centred methods of teaching and learning.

BBS Seminar on “Supply Chain Management

BBS organized a seminar on “*Supply Chain Management (SCM): The Latest Innovation in Business*” on 25 October 2016 in order to highlight the significance of SCM in academic and practical levels based on local and global perspective. Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Adviser of BBS, inaugurated the seminar by expressing the significance of SCM. The keynote speech was delivered by Associate Professor Md. Mamun Habib, an eminent scholar on SCM. The current scenario of the job market -locally and internationally - was illustrated by Ferdoush Saleheen, a corporate specialist in SCM. Assistant Professor Hasan Maksud Chowdhury coordinated this event at the auditorium of BRACU and highlighted the rationale of SCM through various examples. BEF was the organizing partner of the event.

BBS organized “Interns' Meet-Fall 2016”

On 29 October 2016, BBS successfully organized this event for the current interns of BBS, at the

BRACU auditorium. Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Adviser to the School, Professor Salehuddin Ahmed, Dr. Mohammed Tareque Aziz, Associate Professor and Head of Operations, Md. Tamzidul Islam, Assistant Professor and Internship Coordinator and Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Associate Professor, and other faculty members of BBS were present at the event to discuss with the interns the most challenging yet exciting phase in their careers.

BBS organized “Coffee with the CEOs” at BRACU Residential Campus in Savar

On 29 October 2016, BBS organized an interactive session “Coffee with the CEOs” themed “Bangladesh, a country of opportunities for entrepreneurs and graduates,” for the BBS students during Fall semester attending their Residential Semester in Savar. Around 130 students attended the event, the purpose of which was to provide a platform for students seeking opportunities to gain an insight on the corporate culture as well as receive guidance regarding their future involvement in the corporate world.

Present at the panel were some very prestigious and accomplished individuals- Mr. Stephane Norde, the Managing Director of Nestle Bangladesh Ltd., Ms Rupali Chowdhury, Managing Director of Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd., Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed, Professor, BBS and former Governor of the Bangladesh Bank, Professor Rahim B. Talukdar, Advisor BBS and Dr. Tareque Aziz, Associate Professor and Head of Operations, BBS.

The event, which ended with a question-answer session, was coordinated by Mr. Saif Hossain, Senior Lecturer, BBS and Mr. Rehan Ahmed, Campus Superintendent, BRACU Savar Campus, and their teams.

BRACU announced regional finalist for HULT PRIZE

A lively presentation on a social business idea centering on providing low cost biodegradable sanitary napkins for sanitation and sustainable income for refugees stole the hearts of the judges and was awarded as the winner of “Refugees - Reawakening Human Potential” challenge of Hult Prize 2017 at BRACU on 1 December 2016. Chief Guest and BRACU Vice Chancellor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D. presented the award to the

winning team. The jury board comprised of Nazmul Karim Chowdhury, Senior Vice President and Head of Brands, City Bank Limited, Frédéric Jeanjean, Second Secretary, Australian High Commission, Dhaka-Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Romena Parvin, Program Manager (Development Cooperation), Australian High Commission, Dhaka-Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, M.K. Aaref, Director, Edward M Kennedy Center for Public Service and the Arts (EMK Center); crocodile farmer Mushtaq Ahmed, Managing Director, BAN Croc Ltd and COO, CHobiChai.com, and the Chair Reaz Ahmed, Assignment Editor, The Daily Star.

BRACU arranges Global Model United Nations Programme

Organized by International Association of Business Communicators (IABC), BRACU and hosted by the University, BRACU Global Model United Nations 2016 (BUGMUN) kicked off after an illuminating inauguration ceremony at the city's Army Golf Garden on 15 December 2016. Chief Guest of the ceremony was Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor of BRACU. Other well-known personalities also graced the occasion as key speakers. The secretary general of BUGMUN was Upoma Rashid Nuha, and the Advisor of BUGMUN was Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam.

The only residential MUN conference of the country, and with a total of 14 committees, the highest number of committees in a MUN on a national basis, BUGMUN continued for a span of 6 days and 5 nights at BRACU's Savar Campus, with over 400 delegates from various national and international institutions. BUGMUN 2016 ended on a positive note and has successfully created its own benchmark in the MUN circuit for years to come.

Conference & Workshop:

Workshop conducted by Associate Professor Md. Mamun Habib at national & international level

- Dr. Habib conducted a day-long workshop on “Tips and Techniques to Publish International Research Publications” organized by “Global Research & Development Services (GRDS)” at PAUM Clubhouse, University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia at the 2nd International Conference on Social Science and Humanities

(ICSSH) on 25 May 2016. He also delivered the keynote speech at the same event.

- To enrich research capacities Dr. Habib conducted four workshops on **“Research Methodology”** for the BBS faculty members. The first workshop was conducted at BBS Conference Room on 19 May 2016. It ended successfully on 28 July 2016. A group of BBS faculty members joined the that workshop.
- Dr. Habib attended the 5th International Conference on Asian Economic Development (AED) which was organized by Faculty of Economics, Chiang Mai University, Thailand on 16-18 August 2016. As the Editor-in-Chief of SCOPUS-indexed Journal, Dr. Habib conducted a workshop entitled *“Meet the Chief Editor: Tips and Techniques for Research Publications”*.
- Dr. Habib attended the Fifth International Conference on Advances in Economics, Social Science and Human Behaviour Study (ESSHBS 2016) on 25-26 September 2016 at Hotel Lebua at State Tower, Bangkok, Thailand, organized by IRED, USA. He also delivered his keynote Speech on *“Supply Chain Management (SCM): The Latest Innovations in Research”*.
- As the Editor-in-Chief of *International Journal of Supply Chain Management (IJSCM)* - Scopus Indexed journal, **Dr. Habib**, facilitated a day-long workshop on 18 October 2016 at Persada Johor International Convention Centre, Johor Baru, Malaysia.

G. M. Shafayet Ullah, Senior Lecturer from BBS attended International Conference in Los Angeles, USA

Mr. Shafayet Ullah attended the 2nd Los Angeles International Business and Social Science Research Conference 2016 (LAIBSSRC 2016) on 28-30 October 2016, where he presented his paper on *“Undergraduate University Student's Attitude Towards Social Networking Sites: A Study on the Most Influencing Factors”*.

Research paper published in Journal of Strategic Marketing

An original research article of Dr. Khan Md Raziuddin Taufique, Assistant Professor, BBS has been published in the October 2016 issue of 'Journal of Strategic Marketing' (an 'A' ranked journal) by Taylor & Francis. The title of the paper is *“The Influence of Eco-Label Knowledge and Trust on Pro-Environmental Consumer Behaviour in An Emerging Market”*.

G. M. Shafayet Ullah, Senior Lecturer from BBS attended International Conference on Business Management, Economics & Social Sciences (ICBMESS 2016)

Mr. Shafayet presented his paper on *“Undergraduate University Student's Attitude Towards Social Networking Sites: An Empirical Model on the Most Influencing Factors”*. His well-executed presentation was followed by a lively Q&A session with participants from many countries

BBS Faculty in News:

- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam was a designated Speaker at a dialogue organized by Policy Research Institute and Channel 71 on 2 April 2016 where Dr. Akbar Ali Khan and Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed also participated.
- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam was a designated discussant at a dialogue on governance in the banking sector organized by “Shujon” a well-known civil society organization on 21 April 2016. The dialogue was attended, among others, by Mr. Hafizuddin Khan Former Advisor, Caretaker Government, Professor Salehuddin Ahmed, Ph.D., BBS and former Governor, Bangladesh Bank.
- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam was a panelist at a discussion session on critical constraints being faced by Bangladesh economy organized by Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies on 24 April 2016. The participants included Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Vice-chancellor, BRACU and eminent economists and business leaders of Bangladesh.
- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam was the Chief Guest at the launching of a new investment product *“Easy Invest”* by IDLC Investment Limited on 9 August 2016.
- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam chaired a session on *“Financing Development in South Asia: Avenues and Institutional Arrangements”* in the Ninth South Asia Economic Summit. The panelists at the session included Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed Professor BRACU and former Governor Bangladesh Bank. The discussions highlighted the need for use of various avenues for raising resources, cost-effective use of resources, sharing of success cases in South Asia and ensuring that resources are used to address the needs of the under privileged.
- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam participated in an Expert Group Meeting convened by the Centre for Policy Dialogue on 29 November 2016.

- Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam spoke at the award giving ceremony for companies with best corporate governance on 24 December 2016. Dr. Moshir Rahman, Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister was the Chief Guest at the event.

Study Tour: “Jano Bangladesh”

Jano Bangladesh is an initiative taken by BBS. It is a part of a marketing major course named “Brand Management” and a dream project of Rahma Akhter, a faculty of BBS. Basically it is a series of study tours to different locations of Bangladesh to identify the prospects of the places. It is a comparative study which might have a significant contribution for tourism and its establishment in Bangladesh. The second phase of the tour was on 3 March 2016 to “Birishiri-Netrokona”. The third phase of tour was on 21 April 2016 to Ratargul and Lalakhal.



Industrial Visit to Akij Ceramics Ltd.

As a partial requirement of the course 'Industrial Relations', BBS organized an industrial visit at Akij Ceramics Ltd. on 27 May 2016. The objective of the industrial visit was to provide students an insight regarding contemporary industrial relations management issues and also the implications of Bangladesh labour law 2006 practiced at the industrial level. The industrial tour was led by Ms Humaira Naznin, Senior Lecturer of BBS.

Day long trip to “Shishu Polli Plus”

On 4 June 2016, a day-long trip to a UK-based social organization “Shishu Polli Plus” in Sreepur, Gazipur was successfully led by Ms. Nusrat Hafiz, Lecturer, BBS. The team consisted of student-body from “Principles of Entrepreneurship” and “International Business” courses.



James P. Grant School of Public Health



Introduction to JPGSPH

James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), also referred to as the BRAC School of Public Health, was founded with a distinctive mission in mind: to address the unmet public health challenges particular to Asia, Africa and South America. Located in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the School was established in 2004 as part of BRAC University - a premier higher education and development research institution. JPGSPH's institutional partners are BRAC and icddr. The school works in partnership with 70 international and over 52 national organisations and institutes in our four core areas of Education, Training, Research and Advocacy.

Education

- Over 395 graduates since 2005
- Alumni from 26 countries

- Global faculty from 15 international academic institutions
- Access to over 30 urban and rural field sites

Launched in 2005, our Master of Public Health (MPH) programme strives to produce public health leaders who “think out of the box.” By exposing them to the myriad of public health challenges in disadvantaged communities, we prepare them to actively work towards finding local and global solutions. With its “field-to-classroom” philosophy, the School moves away from the traditional pedagogical approach to public health and provides a unique education environment. In 2016, 57 students graduated from the 11th batch of our MPH programme. The same year, the School warmly welcomed 31 students for its 12th batch of MPH students, who are expected to graduate in January 2017.

Training

- Approximately 5,300 development professionals trained since 2007
- 7 national and 17 international training partners

In 2007 the School established a training unit. The Centre for Professional Skills Development (CPSD) is a national and international training hub to strengthen and upgrade the requisite professional skills utilised by practitioners, policymakers, development partners, government officials, public advocates, faculty, researchers and frontline health workers. In 2016, JPGSPH trained 280 health and development professionals through 14 short courses and workshops, which fall under four main clusters: Critical and Emerging Issues in Public Health; Research and Capacity Development; Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation; and Statistical Tools, Data Management and Analysis.

The School's long-established seminar series fosters capacity development by bringing experts together to share their knowledge on critical public health issues. In 2016, CPSD conducted nine seminars on various themes, including arsenic water, staging class, affecting sexuality in Bangladeshi hijra dance, health insurance scheme, maternal screening, understanding dengue transmission, assessment and prevention of hunger, approaches to dealing with natural disasters, and micro-narratives in research and advocacy.

Research

- 4 Centres of Excellences
- 150+ national and international research projects since inception
- 536 articles in journals, books and book chapters since 2004

JPGSPH has developed its research capacity within different spheres of public health, engaging in a wide range of studies on health and development. In 2016, the School was involved in over 30 projects, ranging on health and development issues of national and global importance including gender equity, health equity, health workforce, human rights and health, implementation science, infectious diseases, maternal and child health, nutrition, programme evaluation, sexual and reproductive health, sexuality, surveillance, and urban health.

The School has been training future junior research scientists and public health professionals in a programme environment rich in learning, solutions and service orientation to prepare public health leaders and innovators dedicated to improving public health. The School's research is conducted primarily under our four Centres of Excellences, which are:

- Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (established in 2008), focusing on gender and health on bodily rights, integrity, and service delivery.
- Universal Health Coverage (established in 2012), working towards achieving universal health coverage and improvement of the broader health systems.
- Urban Equity and Health (established in 2013), focusing on health equity challenges of the urban poor with an emphasis on urban health governance
- Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (established in 2016), documenting best practices, institutionalising capacity-building and bridging the worlds of academia and policy-making.

Advocacy

- Over 190 advocacy events facilitated
- Training curriculum developed for 53,500 government officials which now include topics on sexuality with rights-based approach
- 160 participants received training on all aspects of SRHR so far
- Over 500 national and international leaders brought together by the Urban Symposium
- 5 Bangladesh Health Watch Reports have been published
- 5 reports have been published on Food Security Nutritional Surveillance Project
- Network of 76 national and international partners

JPGSPH's advocacy effort is a result-oriented method, which measures effectiveness through policy and programme reform, and documenting processes and outcomes. The School's research projects and educational curriculum have in-built advocacy components to address issues ranging from ensuring universal health coverage, holding policymakers and influencers accountable on

health sector reform, breaking the shame and taboos around sexual reproductive health and bodily rights, and pushing for the urban agenda in a larger platform. In 2016, we were engaged in over 12 advocacy initiatives, including policy dialogues, media engagement activities, and international symposiums among others.

Developing Midwives Project

- 402 students are enrolled
- 178 students successfully graduated
- 170 graduated midwives passed the BNMC licensing examination
- 162 midwives joined various maternity centres as registered midwives

The Developing Midwives Project (DMP) has implemented a three-year Diploma in Midwifery Education since 2013. This project is being implemented with financial support from UKaid at seven academic sites in six districts across the country. DMP aims to draw young women from disadvantaged rural and urban communities in the country and educate them to become competent midwives. In 2016, all seven academic sites received approval and accreditation from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council (BNMC).

To orient the local community on the important role played by midwives during the birthing process, an orientation programme was organised to introduce the graduated midwives to the upazila and union levels. With support from BRAC's Health, Nutrition and Population programme, a total of 69 upazila level and 116 union level orientations were completed in 2016, strengthening the links between midwives and government officials in the community to build a joint work force dedicated to save the lives of mothers and new-borns in communities.

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School of Law



Founded in 2004, the School of Law (SoL) at BRAC University 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 SoL are handpicked for their academic excellence and individual expertise. They bring with them teaching-learning experiences from universities in Europe, Australia and Asia. The faculty has individual expertise in the areas of child rights, criminal law, gender studies, business laws, international trade laws and human rights; all of which are shared with the students in course work, workshops and lecture programmes organised by the School.

Recognising BRAC's background and the goals and commitments of BRACU, the SoL endeavours

to impart legal education and 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 SoL are now pursuing careers as lawyers, judges, corporate legal officers, development workers and academics.

In 2004, the SoL started its journey with six students. In the year 2016, the School had over 400 students. The following paragraphs give a brief description of the activities of the faculty members and the students of the School for 2016.

In 2015, the SoL went through some changes, with the former Head of Undergraduate Studies, Professor K. Shamsuddin Mahmood becoming the new Dean. Two members of faculty left to pursue their PhD degrees in Australia and will complete their degrees by 2018. In 2016, our faculty was enriched by the appointment of two former School of Law graduates, Ms. Khandker Tasnuva Haque, who completed her LL.M from Monash University and Mr. Farhaan Uddin Ahmed, who completed his LL.M from the University of Cambridge.

Conference/ Seminar/Talk/ Workshop

Dr. Rizwanul Islam, Associate Professor was invited to give a lecture on Literature Review and Reference Styles in Legal Research at the Department of Law and Human Rights, University of Asia Pacific, on 03 November 2016.

Dr. Rizwanul Islam - 'Judges as Legislators: Benevolent Exercise of Powers by the Higher Judiciary in Bangladesh with Not So Benevolent Consequences' (2016) 16(2) Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal (forthcoming)

Dr. Saira Rahman Khan 'Cycle of Fear' a six-month research project with the World Organisation against Torture (OMCT). Tentative date of publication is July 2017.

Mr. Farhaan Uddin Ahmed worked as Researcher at the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, London until the end of August 2016 where he conducted research on LGBTI issues on a global scale, primarily identifying and analyzing issues and barriers to LGBTI rights in nations of the Commonwealth.

Op-Ed by Professor K. Shamsuddin Mahmood:

- Absence of limited liability partnership. The Daily Star, 29 November 2016

Op-Eds by Dr. Saira Rahman Khan:

- The Other Women. The Daily New Age, 08 March 2016
- Of Bail and Bail Bandits. The Daily New Age, 18 June 2016
- Aquinas and the Rise of the Trojan Horse Laws. The Daily New Age, 10 October 2016
- Recalling Humanity. The Daily New Age, 21 December 2016

Op-Eds by Dr. Md. Rizwanul Islam:

- For Greater Protection of Consumers, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 20 December 2016, at 12 (Weekly Law & Our Rights Page)
- The Rohingya Imbroglio, The Independent (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 5 December 2016, at 6
- US Withdrawal from TPP May Hurt Free Trade, New Straits Times (Malaysia) 3 December 2016, at 16-17
- If We Could be a Little More Parochial, The Independent (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 10 November 2016, at 6
- Let the Banks Become Institutions, The Independent (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 10 November 2016, at 7

- Time Limit for Settling Suits: Unavoidable Dilemma for Judges, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 25 October 2016, at 12 (Weekly Law and Our Rights Page)
- About the Recruitment Process for Public Universities, The Independent (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 10 October 2016, at 7
- A Step backwards in South Asia, The New Straits Times (Malaysia), 3 October 2016, at 15
- Futility of Cosmetic Road Safety Measures, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 21 September 2016, at 7
- DarulIhsan Case and LLB: Directives or Obiter Dicta? The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 16 August 2016, at 12
- Restoring the Credibility of Grades in SSC and HSC Examinations, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 11 August 2016, at 7
- The Restructuring of CHT Land Commission: An Ice Breaker?, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 6 August 2016, at 7
- The Justifiability of BCB Playing Hardball, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 13 July 2016, at 6
- Doha Round Failure Due Partly to Lack of MNC Interest, The Business Times (Singapore), 10 June 2016, at 20
- Is Legal Education in Private Universities Truly Substandard? The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 4 June 2016, at 6
- The Legality of Seeking Consular Access, The Independent (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 3 June 2016, at 7
- Restraints on the Judge-made Law, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 17 May 2016, at 12 (Weekly Law & Our Rights Page),
- Sixteenth Amendment Debate: The Need for Calm and Reason, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 9 May 2016, at 6
- Do Government Websites Have Enough Public Information? The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 4 May 2016, at 6,
- Synergy between Op-ed and Academic Publishing, New Straits Times (Malaysia) 3 May 2016, at 16
- Panama Papers and Some Inconvenient Truths, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 27 April 2016, at 7
- The Ban on Bowlers, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 23 March 2016, at 6

- The (Not so) Dignified Exit of a Dignified Man, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 17 March 2016, at 6
- Delegated Laws in Bangladesh: Delegation of Functions without Bounds, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 23 February 2016, at 12 (Weekly Law & Our Rights Page)
- Bureaucratic Red Tape and Investment: An SC Decision, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 1 February 2016, (silver jubilee special supplement, part 1), at 38
- A Culture of Disdain for Farmers, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 9 January 2016 at 7
- Epitomising Mismanagement in Public Banks, The Daily Star (Dhaka, Bangladesh), 5 January 2016, (Weekly Law & Our Rights Page), 12

Contribution to the University and the Department

Ms. Khandker Tasnuva Haque and Mr. Farhaan Uddin Ahmed are involved in the training of mooters at the SoL. The SoL participated in the National Henry Dunant Moot Court Competition 2016 and the team was coached by Ms. Khandker Tasnuva Haque. SoL has initiated the yearlong programme for training potential mooters for various national and international moot court competitions. At present, two separate moot teams are preparing for the International Round of the Price Media Law Moot Court Competition 2016-17 and the National Round of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2016-17. Both the teams are being coached by Mr. Farhaan Uddin Ahmed.

Dr. Saira Rahman Khan is responsible for monitoring the progress of SoL students on probation and advising them on their future courses. She is also the Course Coordinator. Since Summer 2016, she is the SoL Coordinator for the BU Scholars programme. She was also involved in the course development and selection for the Programme. BRACU started this programme in Summer 2016, for some of its best students. Students in the programme are enrolled in courses either offered exclusively for the Scholars' cohort, or from the pool of higher level courses from the participating departments. These courses help develop holistic analytical skills and writing and speaking abilities. The courses are also a pathway to clearer thinking on complex matters enabling

students in the programme to engage with communities in productive ways and with leadership abilities. The students will take at least six courses offered by ENH, ESS and SoL.

Mr. Farhaan Uddin Ahmed has been serving as a Member of the Advisory Panel of BRACU Express; an independent student-run newspaper at BRAC University since its very inception in August 2016.

Programmes

The SoL organized the first intra-university quiz competition-2016 which was held on 5 October 2016. The eight top teams battled through 9 rounds of questions on various topics comprising of Bangladesh affairs, history, international affairs, sports, science, literature, and geography, art, and culture.

A total of 84 teams consisting of three members each, from different disciplines participated in the competition. The preliminary round was held on 2 October 2016. In the finals, "Pharma Phantoms" became the champion. Team "Patriot" became the 1st runners-up and "Scribblers" became the 2nd runners-up.

The faculty of the SoL organized the competition. Mr. Farhaan Uddin Ahmed was the Quizmaster of the Grand Final.

Activities of Department Clubs

The BU Law Society (BULS) was founded in Fall 2015 by merging the BU Law Club and the Moot Court Society. Its adviser is Professor Saira Rahman Khan, Ph.D., SoL. The following activities were carried out by the BULS in 2016:

- The regular District Court visit was organised on 19th May 2016, where senior students were taken to observe proceedings at the Dhaka District and Sessions Court.
- Youth awareness programme on the Implementation of the high court directions on stalking and sexual harassment was organised by the BULS on 30th March, 2016, with Bangladesh Mahila Parishad members as speakers.
- A seminar with UNHCR regarding the world refugee campaign was organised by BULS on 14 June 2016.
- Annual Iftar Party was organised by the BULS on 26 June 2016.

- The BULS organised a seminar on e- Evidence in Bangladesh on 19 July 2016, with former student and BU Law Club President Antara Tasneem presenting the key-note paper.
- BULS members participated in the workshop "Bangladesh Priorities youth forum" organized

BRAC Development Center on 13 December 2016.

- The BULS moot team took part in the National Henry Dunant memorial Moot Court Competition 2016 (Selection round) at the Canadian International University on 5 october 2016.





Inspiring Excellence

DEPARTMENTS

Department of Architecture (ARC)
Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)
Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS)
Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)
Department of English and Humanities (ENH)
Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS)
Department of Pharmacy (PHR)

Department of Architecture



The Department of Architecture (ARC) started its journey in the semester of Spring 2002 with 15 students and 3 faculty members. However, over the years, it has grown and currently has 352 students and 25 full-time qualified members of the faculty. The department offers a 201 credits undergraduate degree in architecture. A total of 292 students have graduated through its five-year degree program to date.

The aim of the department is to ensure high quality education. Therefore, the size of the student intake is limited to 25-30 per semester.

The academic atmosphere is characterized by rich co-curricular activities and a lively cultural life. It includes the *Angan* lecture series, the Arch.KIDS outreach program for children and the student cultural forum Moitree. Two prestigious awards "Noman Award for Excellence in Design" and "Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary for Students of Architecture" have been introduced to acknowledge the students' best performances in the design studio. 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 trans boundary in nature. Alongside Bangladesh, the students also undergo this training in India, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia and United States of America. The department enjoys the privilege of students and staff exchange with several European Universities under EMMAAsia (Erasmus Mundus Mobility with Asia) and with the School of Architecture, University of Illinois, Chicago.

Highlights of the Department, 2015

Total Students	352
Total Full-time faculty	25
Graduating students	292
Publications	2
Conferences and Public Lectures	4
Number of students completed Internship	38

New Initiatives Implemented

ARC launches its first ever student publication Folio 1, an anthology of student academic projects from the year 2012 to 2014. Folio 1 is a reflection of the wide range of fields that is pursued at ARC, BRACU and its intimate involvement with architecture and design communities worldwide.

A design charrette “WE & WATER” was established to enhance lateral learning among the studios and increase students design interaction.

This year ARC brought fund for research and publication sector. The department has landed an international collaborative research grant under the British Academy GCRF Sustainable Development Scheme, UK. Title of the research is, 'The Last 100 metres: Safeguarding potable water provisioning to unplanned settlements'. The Folio 1 publication has been sponsored by renowned architectural firm Volumezero Ltd.

Undergraduate curriculum has been redesigned to accommodate contemporary needs. Based on the recommendation of IAB and current academic trend, total required credit for graduation redesigned from 203 to 180 and it is on process to be approved by the UGC.

Publication by ARC

ARC launches student publication Folio 1

BRACU has launched its first ever student publication Folio 1, an anthology of student academic projects from the year 2012 to 2014. A launching ceremony of Folio 1 was held at the university auditorium on 6 September 2016. The Editorial Panel consisting Prof. Fuad H. Mallick, Shams Mansoor Ghani, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna, Farasha Zaman and Kazi Najee Hasan handed over the inaugural copy of Folio 1 to Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D, Vice Chancellor who graced the event as the chief guest.

The compilation houses some 280 student projects that represent a huge variety of work. Moreover, the book also displays other additional studio based student works such as those of landscape and interior designs, 3d visualization work, sculpture, painting and photography studios, etc.

Research and Consultancy

The Last 100 metres: Safeguarding Potable Water Provisioning to Unplanned Settlements

ARC of BRACU has landed an international collaborative research grant under the British Academy GCRF Sustainable Development Scheme, UK. Title of the research is, 'The Last 100 metres: Safeguarding potable water provisioning to unplanned settlements'. The total amount of funding is 3,50,000/- GBP (appx.) to be shared by the partners. This 16 month long research is scheduled to take off between December 2016 - January 2017.

Post Graduate Programme in Disaster Management has Signed an Agreement to be a Participant of ASCENT Project

ASCENT (Advancing Skill Creation to Enhance Transformation) is a project of the European Union's Erasmus+ programme-Key Action2 Capacity building in the field of higher education. The project is designed to address research and innovation capacity strengthening for the development of societal resilience to disasters - supporting training, skills, leadership development, international collaboration and university-industry partnerships. The project is coordinated by University of Huddersfield involving 14 partner universities from Europe and Asia including three universities from Bangladesh, namely BRAC University, Dhaka University and Patuakhali Science and Technology University. Post Graduate program in Disaster Management (PPDM), hosted by ARC, BRACU has agreed to be a participant of the project. The kick-off meeting of this project took place in Sri Lanka in February 2016. A second executive committee meeting was held in University of Huddersfield in October 2016. Both the meetings were attended by faculty members from PPDM.

Architectural Design Cell Projects

The newly established Architectural Design Cell of ARC has signed an MoU with BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED) to design and supervise during construction of 65 play centre across the country for pre-primary level children in September 2016.

The BRAC Play Lab Project is a partnership of LEGO Foundation with BRAC International in Uganda and Tanzania, BRAC USA and the Centre for Play at BIED in Bangladesh. BIED has sought to collaborate with a Design Consultancy and Supervision Consortium, namely Play Lab Design Consortium. The consortium is a consultancy service wing of the Architectural Design Cell, Department of Architecture, BRACU led by the advisors from the department namely Khondaker Hasibul Kabir, Assistant Professor, Shams Mansoor Ghani, Lecturer and Amir Ebn Sharif, Lecturer. The other team members are Farasha Zaman, Lecturer and project coordinator and Subhi Nusrat Shama, TA and volunteer coordinator for the consortium. The design cell has completed designing two play centre in Jirani and Savar area in collaboration with an architectural consultancy firm namely Ghorami. Jon by the end of December 2016.

Besides, Architectural Design Cell has been appointed as consultant by BRAC Bank Ltd. for designing central cafeteria of its corporate head office in Tejgaon Gulshan Link road in December 2016.

Events, Awards and Involvements

BRAC University and Bengal Institute Sign Major Agreement for Collaboration

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the ARC BRACU, and Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscape and Settlements on 1 August 2016 for conducting collaborative activities to face the challenges of contemporary cities and environments. Proposed activities will include joint programmes in architectural and environmental education and research, including developing advanced and post-graduate degree programmes. Professor Shaheda Rahman, Head of the ARC of BRACU, and Professor Kazi Khaleed Ashraf, Director-General of Bengal Institute, signed for their respective institutions. The event was also attended by Sir Fazle Abed, Chairman of BRAC, Mr Abul Khair, Chairman of Bengal Foundation, Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Vice-Chancellor of BRACU, and other eminent architects and educationists.

Celebration of the Third Cycle of The Noman Award for Excellence in Design (NAED) 2015

ARC, BRACU celebrated the third cycle of the Noman Award for Excellence in Design (NAED) 2015 on 17 January 2016. Through this event, the department celebrated the best design from the graduating batch of 2015. The award giving ceremony was followed by an exhibition of the shortlisted projects. Vice Chancellor of BRACU Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Professor Shaheda Rahman, Khaled Noman and Ar. Jalal Ahmad graced the occasion. Eminent architects Saif ul Huq, Kazi Khaled Ashraf were also present at the event.

A jury panel has selected the project titled 'People of the Water' by Kazi Najeeb Hasan as the winning project. Professor Shaheda Rahman, Professor Fuad H. Mallick, Khaled Noman AIA, Professor Zainab F. Ali, Jalal Ahmad and Mohammad Foyez Ullah were the members of the Jury Panel. The event was coordinated by Saiqa Iqbal Meghna, Senior Lecturer of ARC, BRACU.

Panel Discussion Among Renowned Architects

A panel discussion on the topic 'Architectural Education for Tomorrow' by eminent Bangladeshi

architects under the Angan Lecture series was held to mark the book launch event of 'Folio 1'.

The panel discussion was moderated by Professor Fuad H. Mallick; the panelists being Architect Kazi Khaleed Ashraf, Architect Mohammad Foyez Ullah, Architect Mahmudul Anwar Riyaad and Architect Marina Tabassum. Architect Jalal Ahmed, Architect N R Khan, faculty members and students of different architecture schools attended the lecture along with all faculty members and students of ARC, BRACU. The event was organized by the faculty members of the department namely Shams Mansoor Ghani, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna, Amir Ebn Sharif, Farasha Zaman, Bidoura Mosharraf, Rayeed Bin Yusuff.

Event for Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary for Students of Architecture (RATB)

The selection session and certificate giving ceremony of Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary for Students of Architecture was held on 10 October 2016. Ar. Rafiq Azam, Principal Architect of Shatotto, Mohammad Faruk, Department in Charge, Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, Assistant Professor, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator of RATB was present at the event. The Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary, 2016 was awarded to Anika Nawar, fifth year student of ARC, BRACU. Tasmia Kamal, winner of RATB 2015 was awarded the certificate in the same event upon completion of her travel assignment to Sri Lanka.

Faculty members spent one month as teaching Faculty in Portugal Under Staff Mobility Program of EMMAsia

Md. Shajjad Hossain, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna and Tanjina Khan, faculty members of ARC visited Evora under Erasmus Mundus mobility program (EMMAsia) in 2016. They were awarded this staff mobility award to spend one month in one EU partner universities for improving their personal skills and knowledge in the related field. This month-long visit created scope for exchanging views and experiences between BRACU and the University of Evora.

Participation in the Training on Urban Rainwater Harvesting System

Dr. Mohammad Faruk, current In-charge of the Department has participated in the 3 day long training on Urban Rainwater Harvesting System held on 24-27 September 2016 at Chuti Resort, Joydebpur, Gazipur. WaterAid Bangladesh in

collaboration with Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), India arranged this training in Bangladesh to create wider opportunities for architects, civil engineers, environmentalists, urban planners, policy-makers and development practitioners who have an interest in the theory, practice and policies of rainwater harvesting system.

Participation in Workshop on Graduate Attributes and the Development of Programme, Mission, Goals and Learning Outcome

Dr. Huraera Jabeen and Md. Shajjad Hossain, faculty members of the ARC attended the workshop organized by the Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB). The workshop was initiated from realizing the scope of improvement from teaching oriented content to student oriented learning in the curricula of public and private universities of Bangladesh. North South University hosted the event on 28 January 2016.

Humanitarian Contribution to Fire Hazard Victims of Korail Slum and Sat Tola Slum

Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, Assistant Professor and Sadia Subrina, Senior Lecturer from ARC have volunteered to rebuild the houses for fire hazard victims of Korail slum and Sat Tola Slum after a fire broke out on 4 and 12 December 2016. The contribution included the consultation regarding existing problems and how to improve the existing condition with more usable space, ventilation and daylight, documentation of existing house layout (pre-fire) plan, and design proposals. J. A. Architects, BRAC's Urban Development Programme (UDP), North City Corporation, CBO Korail were the main supporting bodies to reach out to the victims of fire hazard and organize this programme. Rubaiya and Sadia were also part of the organizing team for a 'House Design Camp' where they worked with 29 house owners of the Sat Tola slum whose 115 houses were gutted due to a fire on 11 December 2016.

Students and Faculties Attend Sessions at Bengal Institute

The students of ARC 412 Landscape Design along with course tutors Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna and Badruzzahan Ahmed have attended several sessions of the Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscape and Settlements as part of an agreement between the Department of Architecture BRAC University and the Bengal Institute. They attended sessions lead by prominent architects and academicians including Kazi Khaleed Ashraf, Marina Tabassum, Iqbal

Habib, Salauddin Patash and Khandaker Hasibul Kabir.

Seminar on Gender, Climate Change and the Built Environment

Architectural Studies Cell of the Department of Architecture organized a research seminar "Gender, Climate Change and the Built environment" in 12 January 2016. Dr. Huraera Jabeen, Assistant Professor of the department shared her research experience using her findings from the recent research project in Khulna to discuss the interdisciplinary nature of resilience to climate change; also the possible contributions of built environment professionals.

Contract Signing for the Fab-Lab, Department of Architecture Completed

The HEQEP AIF RIII funded Sub-Project, Fabrication Lab for ARC, BRACU has completed its last procurement activity through an Open Tender Method to procure Specialized IT equipment for the lab. A contract has been signed between the Department of Architecture, BRAC University & the winning Bidder, M/S Electrohome on 18 August 2016.

AIF Management Specialist, HEQEP Visits Fab-Lab, ARC, BRACU

Professor Dr. Md. Muhibur Rahman, Ph.D., AIF management specialist of HEQEP and former member of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has visited the Fab-Lab on 14 August 2016. It is an ongoing project, funded under the HEQEP AIF RIII. During his visit, Dr. Rahman met the project team, enquired about overall progress and its achievements and performance. All sub-project management team members Dr. Mohammad Faruk, Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, A.K.M. Sirajuddin, Abul Fazal Mahmudun Nobi, Riffat Farjana, Jasinta Sylvia Gomes were present in the meeting.

Student's Skill Development Workshop

On 28 May 2016, Fabrication lab for ARC, arranged a workshop on non-Euclidean geometry. The workshop, 'Palimpsest', was based on the future of architectural model making with Fab Lab for the skill development of the students of Architecture. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Mohammad Faruk, Abul Fazal Mahmudun Nobi and Riffat Farjana. The whole workshop was based on the discussion of rapid prototyping, materiality and fabrication techniques. Team members Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana and A.K.M. Sirajuddin were also present.

Fab Lab Starts Operating on Trial Run Basis

Fabrication lab for the students of Architecture, under HEQEP AIF R III has started operating on trial run basis. All of the four machines namely 3D printer, 3D scanner, laser cutter and CNC router has reached in Fab Lab. Two students from 5th year have carried out their jury with 3D printed model for the first time in BRACU.

Seminar of Architectural Studies Cell

Architectural Studies Cell of ARC organized a seminar on 24 May 2016 with work of two fifth year students. Asad Bin Sayed presented his paper "The Journey of Becoming an Architect in Bangladesh: Motivation, Expectation, and Experience of Students". Khandoker Upama Kabir presented her paper on "Space Sharing in Shared Apartments and its Impact on the Lives of BRAC University Students". Both the papers were prepared for the course ARC 511: Seminar I.

Student Achievements in Design Charrette

Tasmia Kamal Proma and Muntasir Hakim, students of the ARC, BRACU won the 2nd and 3rd prize respectively in an open design charrette among 80 submissions organized by ARC, North South University on 07 March 2016.

Exhibition of ARC 201 Design III Studio Projects

Students of ARC 201 Design III, exhibited their studio works of Fall 2015 from 10-12 January 2016. Space and form relationships: awareness of scale and proportion and nature of enclosure. The studio was guided by Professor Shaheda Rahman, Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana and Nandini Awal. The 3 day long exhibition was inaugurated by Professor Fuad H. Mallick and Professor Zainab Faruqui Ali.

Design Studio 102 Exhibits their Projects

Students of Design Studio II, ARC 102 exhibited four of their studio works. Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb along with Chairperson Professor Shaheda Rahman, visited their works. Studio tutors Iftekhar Ahmed, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna and Tazkia Tasnim Labonno coordinated the exhibitions.

Arch.KIDS Rethinking Waste as Resource

Sixth grade students of the Chittagong Grammar School, Dhaka participated in Arch.KIDS: an outreach programme of the ARC, BRACU on 11 February 2016. 'Reuse Recycle Reinvent' focused on the waste children generate in their everyday life, and make them aware of recycling and reusing. Dr. Huraera Jabeen and Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana,

Assistant Professors of Department of Architecture facilitated the Arch.KIDS.

Faculty Elected as Secretary of Heritage and Culture at IAB:

Dr. Sajid Bin Doza, Assistant Professor of Architecture, was elected as the Secretary of Heritage & Culture in the 22nd Executive Council of Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB) on 2 December 2016.

Training on Open Street Map

Shams Mansoor Ghani, Attended a training on "Open Street Map (OSM)" as part of the Data 4 Action project of the Disaster Management programme on 02-03 September 2016

Study Tour

Study tour to Housing and Building Research Institute (HBRI)

Students of design studio ARC 301 went to HBRI on 22 May 2016 as part of their design project 'Designing a Flood Resilient House'. The tour was guided by studio teachers Huraera Jabeen, Sadia Subrina and Manal Anis.

Study tour to Shadhinata Stambha

Students of ARC 202 Design IV visited Shadhinata stambha at Sohrawardi Uddyan on 07 February 2016 tour as part of their design project. Studio Tutors Amir Ebn Sharif, Manal Anis and Badruzzahan Ahmed guided the tour.

Study tour with Professor Dwijen Sharma

The students of ARC 412 Landscape Design visited Ramna Park with renowned Bangladeshi naturalist Professor Dwijen Sharma on 30 September 2016. Studio tutors Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, Saiqa Iqbal Meghna and Badruzzahan Ahmed.

Conference and Public Lectures

Best Paper Award Received at International Conference

Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed, Assistant Professor, ARC received the best paper award in the 2nd NZAAR International event series on Natural and Built Environment, Cities, Sustainability and Advanced Engineering held in Kuala Lumpur on 8 December 2016. The conference was organized by New Zealand Academy of Applied Research (NZAAR). Dr. Iftekhar also chaired a session of the conference. The title of his paper was "Coping gender inequality through home based work: a study of adaptive micro scale work environments in Korail slum, Dhaka".

International Conference on Social Business

Sheikh Rubaiya Sultana, Assistant Professor, ARC had joined Social Business Academia Conference 2016 at HEC, Paris, France on 9-10 November 2016. The Conference was jointly hosted by HEC School of Management, Paris, France and Yunus Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Ms Rubaiya's paper titled "Social Business: Scope for bridging the gap between Research and Practice of Sustainable Housing Development for the low income people in Bangladesh".

International Conference on Landscape and Urban Horticulture

Dr. Sajid Bin Doza, Assistant Professor, ARC, attended the 6th International Conference on Landscape & Urban Horticulture held at Agricultural University of Athens, Greece from 21-24 June 2016. His presentation title was Buddhist Architecture in the Ancient Landscape of Delta: Principles behind choosing the contextual landscape.

Built Project Presented at Mongolbarer Shabha and Published Online

Saiqa Iqbal Meghna, Senior Lecturer of ARC was invited by Mongolbarer Shabha, a forum for

Architecture, to present the landscape design built at the premise of Faculty of Social Sciences at Dhaka University on 27 December 2016. The title of her presentation was 'A Momentary Pause in Time: Transforming A 'Non-Place' Through Architecture as Landscape'. This work is also published in Context BD, an online platform for architecture.

List of Publications

Ahmed, Iftekhar (2016) "Coping gender inequality through home based work: a study of adaptive micro scale work environments in Korail slum, Dhaka", in the 2nd NZAAR International event series on Natural and Built Environment, Cities, Sustainability and Advanced Engineering, 8 December, NZAAR, Kuala Lumpur.

Iqbal Meghna, Saiqa (2016) 'E-Library of Faculty of Business Studies at Dhaka University', DOT, a journal on Art & Architecture. Issue 3, Volume 01, March 2016

Internships

Total 38 students have completed internship in 2016. Besides local architectural offices, this year the students have gained their internship experiences from prominent architectural offices located in Korea, China, Sri Lanka and India.



Department of Computer Science and Engineering



The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) is deeply committed to BRAC University's tradition of excellence and leadership in engineering education and research. The department operates under the School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS), and is driven by the dual goals of offering a world-class, broad-based undergraduate programme and a strong research culture centered on our faculty members and graduate students. The CSE Department has the distinction of being one of the first departments to be launched in Spring 2001, when BRAC University officially began its journey.

Since its inception, the CSE has taken great strides toward achieving international standards. At present, the department offers the following academic programmes:

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (B.Sc. in CS)
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering (B.Sc. in CSE)
- Master in Computer Applications (MCA)
- Master of Science in Computer Science and Engineering (M.Sc. in CSE)
- Master of Engineering in Computer Science and Engineering (M.Engg. in CSE)

Besides these academic programmes, the faculty members are leading major research projects in Image Processing, Cloud Computing, Robotics, Bio-Informatics, and Machine Learning, to name a few areas. Several individuals from industry also

serve as visiting faculty members, teaching classes where their real-life experiences allow greater depth of learning for the students. Honourable Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Farhat M. Iftekharuddin is currently serving as the chairperson of the Department. Professor and adviser Dr. Md. Haider Ali serves on several national committees. Dr. Khalilur Rahman, one of the most prominent researchers in the department, leads the Robotics Lab. The lab has completed several immensely successful projects, and is one of the leaders in robotics research in the country.

CSE takes pride in upholding BRACU values in providing the best quality teaching and mentoring services. All full-time faculty members hold regular office hours, and all freshman level courses provide tutorial sessions for students to get a better understanding of the material. High-performing students in their Junior and Senior years are employed as student tutors, which provides the freshman students with additional resources, and enhances the academic profile of the tutors.

All undergraduate students are paired with faculty advisors, who monitor their performance, counsel them in the event of unsatisfactory results, and help them find appropriate resources to address any obstacles they are facing in their academic lives. The Office of Student Affairs provides substantial help in assisting the department in achieving these goals.

The department provides seminars, workshops, and tutorial sessions on advanced material, like

app development, graphics and animation, and competitive programming. Tutorials are held on evenings and weekends. Some faculty members also provide additional classes for interested students, where they cover a variety of programming languages and other useful materials.

The department encourages students to get involved in the diverse ongoing research projects. The research culture within the department is on a steady rise and promises great dividends in the near future. Faculty members are also serving in advisory capacities in prestigious organizations like Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS), and Bangladesh Open Source Network (BDOSN).

Highlights of 2016

On 15 June 2016, Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor, BRACU signed a contract with the Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan, on behalf of BRACU to collaboratively build the first experimental university Nano-Satellite of Bangladesh, designed, developed and assembled by three students of BRACU- Raihana Shams Islam Antara, Abdulla Hil Kafi and Maisun Ibn Monowar on a mission titled “Joint Global Multi-Nation BIRDS Satellite” with the acronym “BIRDS Project”. The Nano-Satellite was named Onnesha 3B in which the three Bs stand for Bangladesh, BRAC University and BIRDS Project. Alongside Bangladesh, the other four member-countries in this project are Japan, Ghana, Mongolia and Nigeria.

Associate Professor, Dr. Khalilur Rahman has been leading the project work as Principal Investigator. Among others Professor A. A. Ziauddin Ahmad, Chairperson, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Colonel Md. Nasim Parvez, Director General, Spectrum Division of BTRC and Mr. Mitsutake Numahata, Counselor, Embassy of Japan were present as special guests during the signing ceremony. Dr. Arifur Rahman Khan, Assistant Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, USA, Mr. Mengü Cho, Professor, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan, and the three students joined the session through video conferencing. It is to be mentioned that Kyushu Institute of Technology has been with BRAC University's nanosat launching process since the signing of a memorandum of

understanding (MoU) a couple of years ago and is now helping it to be launched the nanosat through Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the International Space Station (ISS).

On September 2016, a paper titled “A Novel Modified SFTA Approach for Feature Extraction” was presented at the 3rd International Conference on Electrical Engineering and Information & Communication Technology by Assistant Professor Dr. Jia Uddin's research student Md. Junayed Hasan and was awarded a best poster paper. Student Arafat Habib's paper titled “Optimal Route Selection in Complex Multi-stage Supply Chain Networks using SARSA”, was awarded best paper in the 19th International Conference on Computer and Information Technology (ICCIT 2016), NSU, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

On October 2016, Assistant Professor Dr. Md. Ashraful Alam visited Chungbuk National University (One of the ten flagship government universities in Korea) as a Foreign Expert. Dr. Alam had conducted a Seminar on “3D Image Acquisition and Reconstruction Techniques based on Integral Imaging” on 19 October 2016 at the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering in Chungbuk National University, South Korea. During his visit, Dr. Alam had also demonstrated several experiments for “Real-time 3D imaging system: acquisition, processing and display” in Optical Information Processing (OIP) Laboratory under the Department of Information and Communication Engineering in Chungbuk National University. Dr. Nam Kim, a Professor, and Director of OIP Lab, Department of Information and Communication Engineering had invited Dr. Alam for the visit.

On April 2016, The ICT division organized a National Hackathon contest to discover digital solution of ten social-public problems using mobile or web application. From one hundred teams of different universities, two teams of CSE Department stood as champion in the sustainable tourism and violence against women problems. Team members of “Droid Digger” and “Code Breaker” are- Mihodi Hasan Lushan, Fazle Rabbe Rushu, Monwar Jahan Mufad, Sakib, Hosne Mobarak, and Md Niaz Sharif. Another team (“Sudo Green”) comprising of Masnur Rahman and Sabbir Bin Azad achieved the second runner up position in Environment in City problem.

BRACU Robotics Club prepared “Mongol Tori” for University Rover Challenge (URC) and submitted the critical design review report. “Mongol Tori” received invitation from the organizers to participate in the European Rover Challenge (ERC). Dr. Khalilur Rhaman supervised the project. A group of students from BRACU supervised by Dr. Khalil, achieved the “Best Young Innovator” award at the “Solve-a-thon” competition at “Digital Innovation and City Branding Fair (Dhaka Division)” under Access to Information (a2i) Programme, Prime Minister's Office for the project titled “BRACU BAT GPS Based Taxi Fare Meter”. The team comprised of Toufiq Hasan, Benazir Mustafa, and Tanvir Ahmed. Dr. Khalilur Rhaman supervised the project.

A team under the supervision of Dr. Amitabha Chakrabarty, Assistant Professor introduced a digital electricity billing system to remove the flaws and mismanagement involved within the prevalent system. The web-based technology can be utilized using smart phone irrespective of the phone's operating system (Google's Android, Apple's iOS or, Microsoft's Windows).

Other major events of 2016

BRAC University, and in particular the CSE Department, is immensely invested in finding placement and development opportunities for the alumni. With this objective in mind, Dr. Jia Uddin Ahmed, Assistant Professor, CSE, helped one of our alumni, Md. Junayed Hasan in getting opportunities for full funded scholarship into M.Sc. leading Ph.D. admission at the University of Ulsan, South Korea under the supervision of Professor Dr. Jong-Myon Kim.

Faculty members of CSE are pro-active and highly committed to providing service to the university. They have served on multiple internal committees to help with administration and improvement of facilities for the students. In particular, faculty member Mr. Annajiat Alim Rasel assisted the Academic Calendar committee, as well as working closely with the Office of Student Affairs (OSA). On 9 February 2016, Mr. Shaikh Enamur Reza, Sr. Project Manager, BRAC IT Services Limited (biTS) has consulted him for analyzing academic results and efforts to predict academic success of the students. On 22 February 2016, he received a plaque and a welcome letter on behalf of BRAC

University from Alison J. Derbenwick Miller, Vice President, Oracle Academy, Oracle's Ireland Office. In May 2016, Mr. Annajiat along with Dr. Md. Haider Ali and Abu Mohammad Hammad Ali from CSE Department worked on improving course designs jointly with Dr. Golam Jamil, Assistant Director, and Sabrina Syed, Lecturer, Professional Development Centre (PDC). On 2 June 2016, Mr. Annajiat participated in multiple research workshops organized by Ayesha Abed Library jointly with Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) e.g. Learn your Library and Introduction to Research, Institutional Repository: increasing the visibility and Impact, Plagiarism and Reference Management using Mendeley, and Turnitin-Anti-Plagiarism Web Tool. Facilitators were Hasina Afroz, Md. Saiful Islam, and Md. Shahajada Masud Anowarul Haque. On 12 June, Mr. Annajiat participated in Seminar on Development of e-Learning Platform for Programming Language at Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), Information and Communication Technology Division (ICTD), Ministry of Posts, Telecommunication and IT (MoPTIT). On 21 June 2016, he participated in Seminar on Information Technology Engineers Examination (ITEE) at BCC. Throughout the year, Mr. Annajiat contributed to Question Making Committee (QMC) for “Capacity Building on ITEE Management” project under implementation by Bangladesh IT Engineers Examination Council (BDITEC), BCC, ICTD, MoPTIT. The project is supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and ITPEC.org. On 7 July 2016, he volunteered and participated in Digital Career Show (DCS) held in London, UK. On 13 July 2016, he participated in a seminar on Flipping the Classroom by Professor Chris Evans, University College London (UCL) Interaction Center (UCLIC). The seminar shared research results and experience on using adaptive technologies in flipping classrooms and gaining increased output from classrooms, debunked myths about education, classrooms, lectures, and specially attendance. On 13 August 2016, he attended workshop on Health Data Analytics under UGC HEQEP sub-project CP 3137 at CSE Department, BUET. It focused on diverse characteristics of techniques for analyzing data. He also attended workshop on Open Street Mapping (OSM) by Mr. Ahasanul Hoque, GiS consultant, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) during

2-3 September. OSM helps to produce higher resolution density and location datasets for hazard and exposure mapping, risk modelling and impact analysis, education and training, disaster preparedness, etc. Mr. Annajiat Alim Rasel participated in workshop on Deep Learning using Tensor Flow organized by NVIDIA Deep Learning Institute (DLI) & PERSONTYPE, during 15-16 September 2016 at London, United Kingdom. Deep Learning is a new area of machine learning research for artificial intelligence. It is enabling researchers to achieve groundbreaking results in many areas. He also participated in Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training (BIPSOT)'s Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) course upon nomination. It focused on DDR programmes with a view to enhance capacity and effectiveness of United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations and ICT implications for its different phases. Mr. Annajiat also participated in several Distance Learning Seminars at GDLN, BRAC University e.g., establishment of Intelligent Transport System (ITS) on 18 August, economic analysis of investment projects including technology spillover of an invention on 21 July, Korea's Strategy for Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) policy on April 6, etc. On 4 December 2016, he was consulted by Seiko Yamabe, JICA Representative and Syeda Sadia Hasan, Deputy Programme Manager from JICA Bangladesh Office for the next phase for the project "Capacity Building on Information Technology Engineers' Examination (ITEE) Management Project". It focused on bridging the gap between Industry & IT Engineers, developing human resource, ideas for potential improvements and feasibility analysis for nationwide effectiveness.

The current adviser, Dr. Md. Haider Ali, serves on many national level committees. In particular, he was in a committee assisting the Election Commission with their project on Identification System for Enhancing Access to Services. Dr. Haider was also the computerization expert in a meeting on the computerization of the Office of Director Accounts, University of Dhaka.

Assistant Professor Dr. Jia was a technical committee member in ICISSET2016, session chair in ICAICT2016, ICCIT2016 and reviewer in several peer reviewed international Journals: Multimedia tools and application (Springer), IEEE Access

Journal, Neural Computing & Application (Springer), Journal of Information Processing Systems (JIPS). Dr. Jia was in the final list of best research faculties whereas Lecturer Suraiya Tairin was in the final list of best teaching faculty members for the academic year 2015. Both Associate Professor Dr. Khalil and Assistant Professor Dr. Jia were judges in IEEE WIE Robotic Competition, held in NSU, Dhaka.

On May 2016, three faculty members from CSE department, Mr. Dipankar Chaki, Mr. Samiul Islam, and Mr. Rubayat Ahmed Khan facilitated a 4-day National Substantive Training (NST) on Open Government Data (OGD) for Sustainable Development started at CIRDAP, Press Club, Dhaka. This event was organized as a part of the project on "Strengthening of Capacities of Developing Countries to Provide Access to Information for Sustainable Development through Open Government Data (OGD)". Begum Tarana Halim, Honorable State Minister for Post and Telecommunications Division attended the inaugural program as Chief Guest. Ms. Kaniz Fatema, NDC, Secretary, Statistics and Informatics Division, Mr. Nick Beresford, Deputy Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh and Ms. Aranzazu Guillan Montero, Inter Regional Advisor, UNDESA were present as Special Guests.

On February 2016, two faculty members of CSE Department, Mr. Samiul Islam, and Mr. Md. Saiful Islam attended as participant/trainee in the two-day workshop titled "Data Science and Big Data Specialization Boot Camp" organized by bdjobs training. The objectives of this workshop were to assist the participants to understand the skills needed to extract value from Big Data; specifically, how to translate business objectives into machine learning problems and apply the data analytic techniques required to make smart data-driven decisions. The course explored data mining approaches such as regression, clustering, association rules, classification, recommendation engines, and link analysis. The tools used in that course include R, Hadoop, and RHadoop. This two-day session was conducted by Mr. Md. Rabiul Islam, Trainer, Bdjobs.com.

In November, Faculty member, Md. Saiful Islam attended a Workshop on "Embedded System" conducted by Guest speaker Mr. Ejaz Jamil, Managing Director, Jence, Bangladesh organized by Robotics Club, ROBU. He has also attended a

Seminar on "Technical Paper Writing" conducted by Mr. Shifur Rahman, Deputy Manager, MIS and Monitoring and Evaluation Department, BRAC. Md. Saiful is playing the role of Co-Advisor at Mongol Tori, which is a next-generation Mars rover, inspired by "Curiosity" which was sent to Mars by NASA on 26 November 2011. The makers, Team Mongol Tori, a collaboration of hard-working and enthusiastic students of BRAC University, have been selected for the UKURC and ERC arranged by Mars Society which will take place in the UK and Poland respectively.

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Department of Economics and Social Sciences



Goals

The Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS) was founded in 2003. Since then, it has expanded to include 19 full-time faculty members and over 300 students. More than half the faculty members hold Ph.D.s from reputed universities and have strong research and teaching experience. ESS also has many young teachers dedicated to professional academic careers. All faculty members are committed to close engagement with students to develop their intellectual curiosity and motivation for learning. Faculty members encourage students to ask questions and challenge conventional ideas. Faculty members seek to help students understand the broader economic and social realities they live

in, both in Bangladesh and in the global arena so as to develop critical insights and analysis, which can guide them to solutions. Students are prepared for the job market as well as for postgraduate education with emphasis on their growth as all-rounded individuals with strong ethical values. The Department offers two majors and three minors.

Programmes offered:

- Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSS) in Economics
- Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSS) in Anthropology
- Minors in Economics, Anthropology and Sociology

Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSS) in Economics

The major in Economics offers its students a broad, comprehensive, demanding and innovative BSS degree in Economics. It is designed to introduce them to the basic concepts and issues in economic theory and discourse, offer them challenging upper level courses that sharpen and focus their understanding and engagement with the discipline, and teach them to apply the concepts learnt in the classroom to real life.

The core courses of the Economics major create a strong theoretical base for any further study in economics. Along with the elective courses, the major courses in Economics effectively prepare students for the employment market in the government and private sectors as well as in development agencies.

Bachelor of Social Sciences in Anthropology

ESS has been offering a major in Anthropology since Spring 2013. The programme is committed to rigorous teaching, writing and analytical skill-building on issues such as development, modernity, nationalism, sovereignty and culture. The Anthropology faculty includes well-known specialists who have successfully made ESS an important convening platform that articulates a better historicized, culturally contextualized Southern perspective and offers a new South Asian narrative. The small student-teacher ratio and close mentoring of students, both in the classroom as well as in the field, ensures high-quality social science training with prospects for advanced degrees and interesting careers in the development sector and elsewhere.

Minor in Economics, Anthropology and Sociology

ESS offers a Minor in Economics for students of other disciplines to gain a strong foundation in theoretical and applied micro and macroeconomics along with a basic understanding of the techniques of economic data analysis. The minors in Anthropology and Sociology help students integrate the theoretical knowledge gained in other majors with a deeper understanding of the greater social and development contexts as well as develop their analytical and writing skills.

Events at the Department of Economics & Social Sciences (ESS)

Book Launch of Dr. S. M. Shamsul Alam

Professor S. M. Shamsul Alam wrote a book titled, '*Governmentality and Counter-Hegemony in Bangladesh*'. The book launch event was

organised by Department of Economics and Social Sciences at GDLN, BRACU on 8 February 2016.

BIGD Researcher attended the Fourth Speakers' Forum

ESS in collaboration with the Berkley Centre for Religion, Peace and World Affairs of the George Town University and World Faiths Development Dialogue organised the fourth round of Speakers' forum titled 'Faith and Education: Contestations around the Madrasa in Bangladesh' on 12 March 2016. Dr. Samia Huq, Associate Professor at ESS coordinated the programme. Ebrahim Moosa, Professor of Islamic Studies at University of Notre Dame, USA and author of 'What is a Madrasa' delivered the keynote. Dr. Niaz Asadullah presented other papers.

Seminar: 'Sharing Success Stories'

Global Affairs Forum of BRACU organised a seminar called '*Sharing Success Stories*' on 23 March 2016 at the Auditorium of BRACU where eight distinguished female scholars, entrepreneurs and social motivators were invited to share their success story with the students of BRACU.

The programme started with an introductory speech given by Dr. Seuty Sabur, Assistant Professor at ESS and ended with a brief speech given by Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Associate Professor at ESS.

Seminar: 'Early Marriage'

ESS in partnership with JPG School of Public Health, organized a seminar on early marriage on 15 October 2016. The discussion was based on research findings undertaken as part of the 'Initiative for Gender, Growth and Development in Asia'- an initiative that involves academics from the University of Kent, University of Malaya and ESS at BRACU, where Dr. Niaz Asadullah, Dr. Zaki Wahhaj, Dr. Samia Huq. Mr. Mukibul Islam and Seama Mowri each presented their papers.

Faculty Publications

Professor Abdul Bayes

Professor Bayes co-edited the book- "*Driving Development, A Story of BRAC's Evolution and Effectiveness*", published by University Press Limited (UPL).

Professor Bayes co-authored the article - "*Ultra Poor and Asset Transfer in Urban Setting: Evidence from Slums in Bangladesh*" published in the *Journal of International Development Studies*, John Wiley and Sons Ltd., 2016.

Professor Bayes has also written 40 op-eds. in both English and Bengali National Dailies in 2016.

Dr. Seuty Sabur

Op-ed/ Blog Dhaka Attack: How We Inculcated Something So Monstrous Among Our Children on 5 July 2016.

<https://thewire.in/48715/dhaka-attack-must-ask-inculcated-something-monstrous-among-children/>

Adnan M.S. Fakir

Adnan M. S. Fakir's paper "Health Economics Review" titled "Revisiting the Child health-wealth nexus" was published in the Journal of Health Economics.

Adnan M.S. Fakir and ESS students- Anika Anjum, Fabiha Bushra and Nabilah Nawar jointly authored a research work titled, "The endogeneity of domestic violence: Understanding women empowerment through autonomy". The article was published in the journal- World Development Perspectives.

Adnan M. S. Fakir, lecturer of Economics at ESS, was also invited to advise research projects being undertaken at the "Economics Research Platform" of NSU along with Dr. Atonu Rabbani from DU.

Dr. Shahidur Rahman

Dr. Rahman is currently involved in a research project "Globalisation, Migration and Knowledge generation: A study on higher education institution in Bangladesh." The study is being published by Springer (On-going).

Dr. Rahman has also authored a book in Bengali on Bangladesh's Garments Industry. The book will be published in 2017 by the University Press Limited.

Dr. Rahman has also written an op-ed published in The Daily Star, Governance after Rana Plaza. 20 April 2016.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/op-ed/politics/governance-after-rana-plaza-1211845>

Rehnuma Jahan Islam

Rehnuma Jahan Islam, lecturer at ESS was mentioned in the news article of New Age (2 October 2016) for her fresh and unorthodox thinking and teaching style.

Rehnuma Jahan Islam has also written an op-ed: Reclaiming the rights of the pedestrians, published in the Financial Express on 23 November 2016.

<http://www.thefinancialexpressbd.com/2016/11/23/54066/Reclaiming-rights-of-pedestrians>

Meheri Tamanna

Meheri Tamanna has published a journal article in the Journal of Asian Profile titled 'Neoliberal restructuring and Urban Poverty: Does urban poor doing better than their Rural Counterparts', (2016 Journal of Asian Profile, vol.44, no.1).

<http://www.asianresearchservice.com/Asianprofile.html>

Ms. Tamanna has worked on a project as research associate titled "An in-depth study on Framer's behavior change, drivers and barriers as well as 'spontaneous' impact on family and neighbors of SaFaL" by Consiglieri.

Dr. Samia Huq

Op-ed/blog: Faith, Dissent and Extremism: How Bangladesh is Struggling to stay Secular in The Conversation, published on December 9, 2016. <https://theconversation.com/faith-dissent-and-extremism-how-bangladesh-is-struggling-to-stay-secular-68927>. Reprinted in Scroll <https://scroll.in/author/12346>, December 12, 2016.

Dr. Huq has written a chapter on: Lived Realities from Bangladesh: Women's Stories, Women's Lives: Male Authority in Muslim Contexts, published by Musawah, Malaysia, 2016.

Dr. Samia Huq has authored a book chapter: "Tolerance in Bangladesh: Discourses of State and Society", the expected to be published by Cambridge University Press in 2017.

Dr. Farzana Munshi

Op-ed titled "Youth unemployment: Emphasising Skill Development" published in The Financial Express 13 April 2016

Dr. Farzana Munshi was awarded BRACU's faculty research grant to study the effect of Labor Market Regulations on employment: Evidence from Bangladesh.

Dr. Munshi has also authored a publication on "Preliminary Assessment of Impact of Labour Migration from South Asia on the South Asian Employers", published by ILO, 2016.

ESS Faculty Participation in Conferences, Meetings, Seminars and Workshops

Training on Self-Assessment (SA)

Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Additional Director and other officials of IQAC, BRACU were present in the training session at BRACU on 17 January 2016. Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of BRACU organized this event.

Just Governance Dialogue

Adnan M. S. Fakir, lecturer of Economics at ESS, was invited to the Just Governance Dialogue 2016 on 12 February 2016 organized by the Initiatives of Change, India, to deliver a talk on “Greedonomics Does inequity drive innovation?”

Chapter Workshop

Dr. Samia Huq, Associate Professor at ESS participated in a chapter workshop held in Uppsala, Sweden from 18-20 March 2016. The workshop focused: “Religion and Social Progress: Critical Assessments and Creative Partnerships” contributing to the Publication of International Panel for Social Progress (IPSP), Swedish Collegium for Advanced Studies.

Partner's Meeting at IDS

Professor Abdul Bayes, acting Chairperson of ESS attended the Partner's Meeting of Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia (LANSA), IDS, Sussex on 11-12 April 2016.

Workshop: Promoting Good Governance Through Higher Level Students in Schools and Madrasahs

A workshop on “Promoting Good Governance through Higher Level Students in Schools and Madrasahs”, organized by the Asia Foundation in Hotel Nascent Gardenia, Dhaka was held on 25 April 2016. Dr. Samia Huq, Associate Professor at ESS was invited to deliver a talk there.

Seminar: 'Growth, Governance and Democracy'

A seminar was organized by BRACU Economics Club in association with Department of Economics and Social Sciences (ESS) on 'Growth, Governance and Democracy' on 26 May 2016. Dr. Binayak Sen was the main speaker of the event. The primary theme was based on the aspect of governance in detail from philosophical and operational approaches.

Seminar: “Constructing Others: Muslim Sects in the Eyes of Deobandi Ulama”

Dr. Ali Riaz presented his study on the construction and reproduction of Deobandi percepts with regard to Ahmadiyas and Barelwies by Deobadi Ulama. The event was organized by Department of Economics and Social Sciences on 9 June 2016.

Seminar: 'Changes in the Governance of Garment Global Production Network'

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) at BRACU in collaboration with the London School of Economics, the University of New South

Wales, the Freie University, the University of Gothenburg has initiated a research titled, “Changes in the Governance of Garment Global Production Networks: Lead Firm, Supplier and Institutional Responses to the Rana Plaza Disaster”. As a team member of this research project, Dr. Shahidur Rahman participated in a seminar organized by London School of Economics at UK on 28-29 June 2016.

Conference: Politics, Hermeneutics and Emerging Nationalism

Samia Huq, Associate Professor at ESS was invited to read her paper on “Politics, Hermeneutics and Emerging Nationalism” in a conference 27 August 2016. The conference, based on Researching Religion in Bangladesh was organized in Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Conference: 'Changes in Governance in Global Garment Supply Chain after Rana Plaza Disaster'

Dr. Shahidur Rahman organized and participated in a stakeholder workshop on 31 August 2016 at BRAC Inn organized by BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRACU. This workshop was arranged as part of his research project titled, “Changes in the Governance of Garment Global Production Networks: Lead Firm, Supplier and Institutional Responses to the Rana Plaza Disaster”.

Workshop: IQAC Team Building Workshop -1

A Team Building Workshop was held including all the faculty members of ESS Department on the self-assessment criteria of IQAC on 1 September 2016.

Report Launch

Based on a research between 2012-12, a report launch event was organized by Musawah in Rabat, Morocco on 27-30 September 2016. The event was followed by a two day seminar on 'Rethinking the Marriage Contract in Muslim Family Law'. Dr. Samia Huq was one of the key speakers in the aforementioned report launch on “Women's Lives, Women's Stories: male Authority in Muslim Contexts”.

HULT Prize: BRACU alongside with OCA organized HULT Prize for the fourth time. 34 teams from diverse disciplines participated with ideas to reawaken the human potential and benefitting the lives of refugee. ESS faculties Dr. Rubana Ahmed and Dr. Samia Huq were both in the panel of judges for the presentation.

4th Micronutrient Global Conference

Professor Abdul Bayes, acting Chairperson of ESS Department attended the 4th Micronutrient Global Conference, Cancun, Mexico, 23-28 October 2016.

Partners' meeting of LANSA

Professor Abdul Bayes, acting Chairperson of ESS Department participated in the Partners' meeting of **LANSA**, 1-7 October 2016 held in Colombo.

Thesis Presentations

Politics of Authenticity: Maizbhandari as a Sufi Community

Arefin Noman, a former student of Anthropology program of ESS department presented his undergrad thesis titled "An Ethnography on the Maizbhandar: Locating within Cultural, Religious and Political Dimensions" organized by the Anthropology Forum of BRACU on 17 October 2016.

Thesis Presentation

On 17 November 2016 five Economics students from the ESS department completed their undergraduate theses in 2016 under the supervision of Dr. Farzana Munshi. The five students and their thesis topic are as follows, Azraf Uddin Ahmad- The Effects of Income Inequality on Government Spending: An Instrumental Variables Approach, Fabiha Bushra- Gendering' Terrorism: The Role of Women's Empowerment in Predicting Terrorist Violence, Samirah Bint Zulfiqar- Does

Globalization affect Informal Employment in Low and Lower Middle Income Countries?, Md. Irtaza Mahbub Akhond- Institutions and Civil Conflict: Evidence from 60 countries and Asif Muztaba Hassan- Testing Political Systems in Conflict: A Deeper Look Into Polity and Public Apathy.

Faculty transitions

1. On May 2 2016, two new faculties Sifat Islam Ishty and Ashraf Ahmed were appointed for the ESS Department.
2. Sarah Salauddin, one of the ESS faculties, has left for her PhD in 2016.

ESS Student Participation

Fresher's Reception

Department of Economics and Social Sciences welcomed its Fall-2016 enrollment with an interactive session at the BRACU's auditorium where the incoming students' spent an afternoon with their teachers, seniors and peers from the department.

HULT Prize

BRACU alongside with OCA organized HULT Prize for the fourth time. 34 teams from diverse disciplines participated with ideas to reawaken the human potential and benefitting the lives of refugee. ESS faculties Dr. Rubana Ahmed and Dr. Samia Huq were both in the panel of judges for the presentation.



Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering



The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) operates under the School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS). The department has been running successfully with around 1200 students and having 110 students awarded BSc in EEE Degree and 20 students awarded BSc in ECE Degree in the 11th Convocation, 2016. The faculty members boast both strong academic and research background and have international experience in academia and industry. They publish regularly in high impact journals and present in conferences. Also, faculty members of the department regularly go abroad to attain graduate degrees and return to BRACU upon the completion of their studies adding further to the quality of teaching. Our objective is to produce well-informed and well-trained graduates who can use electronic, telecommunication and power system engineering tools to solve real world problems, and to train students in research methodology, so that they can contribute to the creation of new knowledge. The department offers courses which follow University Grants Commission (UGC) requirements and also maintain standards that are parallel to the curriculum of American and European universities and institutions.

Programmes offered

- i. Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (B.Sc.EEE)
- ii. Bachelor of Science in Electronic and Communication Engineering (B.Sc.ECE.)
- iii. Master of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (M.Sc.EEE)
- iv. Master of Engineering in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (M.Engg.EEE).

Achievements

There are several research centres and laboratories operating under the EEE department among which the Control and Applications Research Centre (CARC) and the Robotics Laboratory have received national and international acclaim.

CARC has expertise and activities in the area of system and control engineering. Most CARC projects, supervised under Dr. A.K.M. Abdul Malek Azad, involve close collaboration with industrial organizations including companies like EnergyPac Bangladesh, BRAC Solar and Dhaka Power Distribution Company. Last year, the research centre has redesigned and developed an ambulance van with required modifications based on valuable feedbacks obtained from drivers, patients and BRAC Health Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP) personnel during a past field test. On 26 May 2016, the modified ambulance van was delivered to the CARC research facility located at Genda, Savar to conduct the performance test of this vehicle on the roads. The field test has been conducted and the performance of this vehicle has improved remarkably. Patients were carried from their houses to nearby hospitals using this modified ambulance van. Local people and patients expressed their gratitude and satisfaction with this innovation and they felt that this vehicle can provide

better health services to rural people in the rural community.

The accomplishments of the Robotics Laboratory has yielded yet another path through which BRACU has reached a milestone in terms of research work. On 15 June 2016, Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor, BRACU signed a contract with the Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan, on behalf of BRACU, at the GDLN Centre, 18th floor, BRACU, Mohakhali. This will lead to collaboratively building the first experimental university Nano-Satellite of Bangladesh, designed, developed and assembled by three students from the EEE department of BRACU, namely, Abdulla Hil Kafi, Raihana Shams Islam Antara and Maisun Ibn Monowar, on a mission titled "Joint Global Multi-Nation BIRDS Satellite" with the acronym "BIRDS Project".

Dr Mosaddequr Rahman is involved in the development of a solar powered electric car for Dhaka city dwellers that will be eco-friendly and economically affordable. Last year Dr Mosaddeq and his team led by Imran Bin Jafar, Teaching Assistant, EEE Department, finally constructed a fully functioning solar car for the first time in Bangladesh. And in the year 2016, the project got its recognition when awarded the 1st Runner Up prize, worth of Tk. 50,000, in the 'National Project Competition on Green Energy and Technology 2016', organized by Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) on 31 March 2016. A total of 40 projects were selected for the final competition in the university category, from about 250 submissions from different universities across the country. The solar car project has the potential to attract investors to invest for further research and development in this area so that a fully functional solar car for commercial use can be manufactured locally at an affordable price.

In another funded project from BRACU, Dr Mosaddeq is engaged in the development of a novel prototype multi-level solar panel system. The urban cities in third world countries are faced with acute shortage of electricity. Generating electricity using solar panels is a potential solution to the current energy crisis as it is renewable and climate friendly. However, in large urban cities there is not enough roof top space for installation of solar panels. The proposed system aims at solving this problem by introducing a novel approach to arrange the solar panels in a way that minimizes the use of floor space.

Events & Activities

From 19-20 December 2016, the inauguration of the first IEEE Community of Practice (CoP) meeting was held where Dr. Shahidul Islam Khan, the professor of BUET, delivered the inaugural speech. Reputed professionals and professors from abroad attended the two day event, along with respected faculty members of the EEE Department of BRACU. Professor of EEE Department, BRACU, Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad led the meeting for two days and gave the attendees a hands-on experience on the projects CARC has been working on, like Human Cargo Hauler and Solar Ambulance.

On 17 May 2016, IEEE BRACU Student Branch arranged a two-hour workshop on "An efficient and significant workshop on writing scientific article on Latex" instructed by Irtiza Haque, System Engineer, Grameenphone Limited and Shoilie Chakma, Lecturer, BRACU EEE Department who showed the students different skills and techniques of writing effective scientific paper on Latex. Later in the month, they arranged a tour to Bangladesh Air Force Technical Base which took place on 26 May 2016. They went to Bangabandhu Aeronautical Centre where squadron leader Shahid gave them a briefing on Bangladesh Air Force and guided them throughout the tour. They visited Electric Specialized Equipment Shop, different Electrical Workshops, Pipe Repair Workshop, etc. and got introduced to different technologies related to air crafts. On 8 October 2016, IEEE student branch organized a workshop titled, "Video Editing Workshop On After Effects" conducted by Rahatul Amin Ananto where the participants learned about editing and animating videos and movies using After Effects.

Among other events, on 27 June 2016, BRACU Electrical & Electronics Club (BUEEC) organized a seminar in GDLN Conference Centre, titled "Fundamentals of Molecular Communication Nano-networks", with Dr. Mohammad Upal Mahfuz, Assistant Professor of Engineering Technology, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, as the speaker. The talk was arranged for giving the current engineering students an insight of the recent developments in Nano-networks. The departmental club, BUEEC, then organized another seminar titled "Towards Human-in-the-Loop Robot Autonomy: Algorithms, Applications and Systems" on 18 July 2016, again in GDLN Conference Centre. This talk was presented by Dr.

Junaed Sattar, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota.

List of Publications

The following research papers were published by EEE faculty members in the year 2016:

"Output Regulated One-Switch Three-Phase Boost and Boost-Buck (SEPIC) PFC Rectifiers", Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin Lead/Principal Author: Amina Hasan Abedin Co-author: K.L. Bashar, Samia Islam and M.A. Choudhury Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Comparative Study of Quantum Mechanical Capacitance Voltage Characteristics and Threshold Voltage of Two Different Structures of Junction Less Nanowire Transistor.", Nujhat Tasneem Lead/Principal Author: Nujhat Tasneem Co-author: Mohsinur Rahman Adnan, Md. Samzid Bin Hafiz, Quazi D.M. Khosru Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Development of Double Burner Smart Electric Stove Powered by Solar Photovoltaic Energy", Dr. A.K.M Abdul Malek Azad Lead/Principal Author: Samira Siddiqua Co-author: S. Firuz, B. M. Nur, R. J. Shaon, S. J. Chowdhury and A. Azad Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Electrically Facilitated Solar Cargo Hauler - A Key To Easy And Safe Transportation Of Goods Without Dependency On The National Grid", Dr. A.K.M Abdul Malek Azad Lead/Principal Author: A. E. Purbasha Co-author: F. R. Khan, M. Sanjib and A. Azad Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Impact on Quantum Capacitance and Threshold Voltage of Surrounding Gate Junction of Structural Geometry Less Nanowire Field Effect Transistor", Nujhat Tasneem Lead/Principal Author: Md. Mohsinur Rahman Adnan Co-author: Nujhat Tasneem, Md. Samzid Bin Hafiz, Quazi D.M. Khosru Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Mathematical Modeling and DIqr Based Controller Design for a Non-minimum Phase Electro Hydraulic Servo System (EHS)", Dr. A.K.M Abdul Malek Azad Lead/Principal Author: Mazid Ishtique Ahmed Co-author: Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Quantum Ballistic Transport In Ultra-Small Silicon Channel Cylindrical Gate-All-Around Junction Less Nanowire Transistor Using NEGF Formalism",

Nujhat Tasneem Lead/Principal Author: Md. Mohsinur Rahman Adnan Co-author: Md. Samzid Bin Hafiz, Nujhat Tasneem, Quazi D.M. Khosru Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Real-Time Monitoring of Solar Battery Charging Station", Dr. A.K.M Abdul Malek Azad Lead/Principal Author: Mirza Karishma Priyanka Co-author: Alvi Chowdhury, Bushra Mahmud, Sheri Jahan Chowdhury and AKM Abdul Malek Azad Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Real-Time Monitoring of Solar Battery Charging Station", Lead/Principal Author: Mirza Karishma Priyanka Co-author: Alvi Chowdhury, Bushra Mahmud, Sheri Jahan Chowdhury, AKM Abdul Malek Azad Year: 2016

"Robust One Switch Three Phase Modified Vienna/Modular-Boost Rectifiers", Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin Lead/Principal Author: Amina Hasan Abedin Co-author: M.A. Choudhury Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Solar Electric Ambulance Van Unfolding Medical Emergencies of Rural Bangladesh", Dr. A.K.M Abdul Malek Azad Lead/Principal Author: R. Tarek Co-author: A. Anjum, M. A. Hoque and A. Azad Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Taking Meredith out of Grey's Anatomy: Automating hospital ICU emergency signaling", Dr. Tarem Ahmed Lead/Principal Author: Dr. Tarem Ahmed Co-author: Supriyo Ahmed, and Fazle Elahi Chowdhury Name of Publisher: IEEE, indexed by SCOPUS Year: 2016

"Three phase three switch modular Vienna, Boost and SEPIC rectifiers", Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin Lead/Principal Author: K. L. Bashar Co-author: A. H. Abedin, Dr. M. N. Uddin and Dr. M. A. Choudhury Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Three-Phase Robust SEPIC PFC AC-DC Converters", IEEE-PEMC 2016", Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin Lead/Principal Author: Amina Hasan Abedin Co-author: M.A. Choudhury Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

"Two Switch Three Phase Two Switch Cuk Regulated Rectifier", Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin Lead/Principal Author: Amina Hasan Abedin Co-author: M.A. Choudhury Name of Publisher: IEEE Xplore digital library Year: 2016

Department of English and Humanities



The Department of English and Humanities (ENH) aims at enhancing analytical and creative skills of its students along three academic streams: Literature, Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching (ELT) and Media and Cultural Studies. A Minor Programme in History is also designed to meet the above goals.

The Literature stream presents a range of literary writing in English from different historical periods and geographical regions. Literary texts are read in conjunction with theoretical approaches to literature and culture, inculcating the spirit of inquiry and analysis amongst students. The Applied Linguistics and ELT stream examines the place of language in society, as well as imparts basic teaching skills to students based on theories of language learning and acquisition. The Media and Cultural Studies concentration looks at the domain of culture and the influence of global and local media industries on the formation of public opinion and popular culture.

A feature of the undergraduate programme is the final thesis/internship report which is mandatory for all students. Spanning two semesters, students either write a 6-credit extended essay, which involves research and extensive reading or write a report after a semester-long internship. The aim is to equip all students with writing, research and analytical skills, which then becomes the hallmark of the department.

The post-graduate programme consists of an MA in English, with concentration either in Literature or Applied Linguistics and ELT. The Literature stream involves a more stringent critical approach, based on post-colonial, feminist or postmodern approaches to literature. The Applied Linguistics and ELT stream concentrates on putting the practical and theoretical skills together, with a concentration in technological approaches to language learning and acquisition.

2016 has been a productive year for ENH, with international collaborations and conferences including student conferences and a host of publications from its academic staff.

International Collaborations and Conferences Linnaeus Palme International Exchange Programme

This programme included a three-year-long exchange of academic staff between ENH and the Umea Centre for Gender Studies (UCGS). In the final leg of the programme, we had two professors visiting from UCGS. Their activities included a three-day long workshop on Qualitative Research Methodology from 21-23 January 2016. Conducted by Professor Ann Öhman, UCGS, Umeå University, the workshop was attended by scholars and researchers from various departments and institutes of BRACU, as well as other private and public universities. Dr. Sara Edenheim, also from UCGS, held another

workshop on 'Close Reading' on 18 February 2016. Participants included students and faculty of ENH and other departments of BRACU.

Professor Ann Öhman also gave a public lecture, titled "Exporting Social Policy to the Global South: Swedish International Development Policies, Gender Equality Policy and Violence against Women" on 28 January 2016. Dr. Edenheim delivered a public lecture, titled, "Performativity as a Symptom: The Trembling Body in the Works of Judith Butler" on 23 February 2016 at BRACU auditorium. Besides this, Sara Edenheim also took regular classes on 'Transnational Feminism' with MA students during her 3-week stay here.

International Conference on First Language Acquisition

On 24 March 2016, ENH organised an international conference on "Language Acquisition, Impairment, and Intervention". The key speakers of the conference were Prof. Thomas Klee and Prof. Stephanie Stokes who are currently affiliated with the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences, University of Hong Kong. Prof. Klee and Prof. Stokes have established child language centres at several universities including Newcastle University, UK and the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. The conference heard relevant papers based on research from the icddr, Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation, Dhaka Shishu Hospital, and the Institute of Education and Research, Dhaka University. The conference also proudly presented the research of two ENH students who worked on typical and atypical development of Bangla-speaking children. Dr. Asifa Sultana, Assistant Professor, also presented a paper titled "Use of Verb Morphology among Bangla-Speaking Children with Language Difficulties."

Meeting with Scholars from the US

On 12 and 14 January 2016, Dr. Poulomi Saha, Assistant Professor of English, University of California, Berkeley, had a reading session and research discussions with mid-level and junior faculty members of the department. Faculty members got the chance to know about different strategies to write a research proposal from Dr. Saha's feedback.

Professor Ania Loomba, a leading postcolonial theorist, took a class on postcolonial literature on 6 March 2016. Students and faculty members benefitted from her lecture on reading literature from a postcolonial perspective.

Meet the Author and Book Launching

On 20 January 2016, ENH heard the stories of 15 war babies of 1971 liberation war of Bangladesh. The event titled "Meet the Author: Mustafa Chowdhury 71' er Juddhoshishu: Obidito Itihash", featured Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam and Professor Afsan Chowdhury as the discussants.

Again, on 10 March 2016, ENH hosted the launching of the anthology titled *Spiders and Other Stories* by Saleha Chowdhury. The anthology, edited by Niaz Zaman and published by writers.ink, comprises of English translations of fourteen Bengali short stories by Chowdhury.

Inter-University National Conference: New Directions in Literary Research.

The department organised a two-day inter-university conference for students and fresh graduates from 19-20 May 2016 at the BRAC University auditorium. The conference showcased thirteen high quality research papers of students and new graduates of different universities including BRACU, North South University, ULAB, International Islamic University of Chittagong and East West University.

Conference Attendance and Paper Publications

On 9 November 2016, Professor Firdous Azim was invited to give a lecture at a daylong seminar, entitled "Formation and Reformation: Women in 19 and 20 Century Bengal" organized by the Dhaka University History Research Centre. The lecture was based on her research on the writings of Nawab Faizunessa Chaudhurani and Toru Dutt. Professor Azim spent August 22-25 in New Delhi, India to attend the publication of the book, *Feminist Subversion and Complicity: Governmentalities and Gender Knowledge in South Asia*, ed. by Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay, which includes her chapter titled, "Secularism and the Women's Movement in Bangladesh". Professor Azim was also part of the jury for the prestigious Commonwealth Short Story Writers Prize for 2016.

Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam was invited to sit on the panel of jury for selecting the long list, short list and consequently the winner of the prestigious DSC Prize for South Asian Fiction 2016.

"Magic, Money and Power in Satyajit Ray's Movies" was presented by Dr. Rifat Mahub, Assistant Professor, and "Magicians in Classrooms: Their Bag of Tricks" was presented by Mohammad Mahmudul Haque at a two-day

international conference titled “Magic and Literature” organised by the Department of English, Liberal Arts University from 27-28 May 2016

Mohammad Mahmudul Haque gave a talk titled “Post Method Pedagogy: What Why and How” at International Conference on Language Teaching and Learning (ICTL) between April 22-23, 2016 organized by Center for Pedagogy established at IUB under the HEQEP-funded sub-project titled Pedagogical Development at Undergraduate and Master's Level.

Mohammad Mahmudul Haque conducted a webinar titled “Communicative Tasks in the Language Curriculum” for the Moldovan English teaching community on 19 February 2016.

Dr. Asifa Sultana, Assistant Professor, virtually presented a poster at the IAFOR Conference on Language Learning, 2016 held in Honolulu, Hawaii (8 - 11 January 2016). The poster was titled “Morphosyntactic Development of Bangla-Speaking Children with Language Impairment”, and was jointly authored by Asifa Sultana, Stephanie Stokes, Thomas Klee, Paul Fletcher.

An invited paper on Dr. Asifa Sultana's research on Bangla child language acquisition was presented at the Conference of the European Group for Child Language Disorders (EUCLDIS) held in May 2016 in Hungary. The paper was titled “Verb Form Use by Bangla-speaking Preschool Children.”

Publications

Azim, Firdous. (2016) “Secularism and the Women's Movement in Bangladesh”. In *Feminist Subversion and Complicity: Governmentalities and Gender Knowledge in South Asian*, ed. Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay. Zubaan Publishers: New Delhi, pp. 209-234.

Mahbub, Rifat (2016) "The Culture of Intensive Caring: Educated Bangladeshi Immigrant Mothers and the Politics of Neoliberal Citizens in Britain". In Roberta Garrett, Tracey Jenson and Angie Viola, *We Need to Talk about Families: Essays on Neoliberalism, the Family and Popular Culture*. London: Cambridge Scholars Publications.

Mahbub, Rifat (2016) “The Place of Pierre Bourdieu's Theories in (Popular) Cultural Studies”, Principal Investigator: co-author: Kazi Farzana Shaily. BRAC University Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol. X1, Nov: 1, , pp.1-11.

Haque, Mohammad Mahmudul (2016) The Usefulness of the Debate between focus on form and focus on forms', BRAC University Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol. X1, Nov:1, 2016, pp.63-69.

Sultana, Asifa. (2016). 'Morphological Development of Bangla-Speaking Children: A Pilot Study'. The EFL Journal, Vol. 7, Issue 1, 2016, pp. 73-92.

Sultana, Asifa (2016) 'Description of verb morphology in colloquial Bangla', Principal investigator/author: Name of Publisher: BRAC University Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol. X1, Nov: 1, 2016, pp.69-79.

Sultana, Asifa, Stokes, Stephanie, Klee, Thomas, & Fletcher, Paul. (2016). 'Morphosyntactic development of Bangla speaking Preschool Children', *First Language*, Sage Publications, Vol. 36, Issue 6, 2016, pp. 637- 657.

Translation Publications

Mohammad Mahmudul Haque translated two interviews and two full-length research articles for the book *Of The Nation Born* published by Zubaan Publishers, New Delhi 2016.

Mohammad Mahmudul Haque translated a short story by Salma Bani titled “The Path of Poribibi” for an anthology of fiction called *The Book of Dhaka* published by Comma Press, UK 2016.

Faculty on Leave for Higher Studies

2016 saw the departure of two faculty members in order to pursue a doctoral research programme.

Sabreena Ahmed, Senior Lecturer, left for Malaysia to undertake doctoral research on multi-lingual theories and practices.

Pritilata Sharma, Lecturer, left for New Delhi, India where she will be pursuing her doctoral research on translation studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Special Programmes

In its quest for excellence, BRACU encourages its departments to be innovative and take up new ways in which to transmit the spirit of exploration and achievement in its students. As part of the wider university effort, ENH has embarked on the following specially designed programmes.

Scholars Programme

A new programme has been launched by the University in order to establish a separate pathway

for its best students. Students in the programme will enroll in specially designed small classes, either offered exclusively for the Scholars' cohort, or from a pool of higher level courses from the participating departments. Participating departments are ENH, ESS and SoL. The programme was piloted in 2016, and it is hoped that its first graduates will attend the 2017 Convocation.

Digital Humanities Platform

The Department launched its first digital humanities platform on 29 September 2016. Hamim-Al-Ahsan, Education Technology Specialist launched Arshi Nagar, the first-ever one-stop digital humanities platform in Bangladesh. Arshi Nagar will serve both as an instantly-searchable-database for ENH. ENH has been trying to deploy Digital Humanities as an

auxiliary enhancement of pedagogy and this project is a milestone in the history of humanities studies in Bangladesh.

Convocation

The 2016 Convocation was a landmark for the department, with a record number of 80 students receiving their certificates. The BA degree was conferred to 51 students, and the MA degree to 29 students. The department is extremely delighted that Nazida Akter Fabee received the Gold Medal for attaining the highest CGPA in the BA in English programme, and Lubaba Sanjana received the same medal for securing the highest CGPA in MA, with a CGPA of 4.0. Lubaba Sanjana also worked as a contractual faculty member at the department in Fall 2016.



Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences



Introduction

The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) was established in 2001. It has been providing quality education in basic and applied sciences to students of different disciplines of BRACU, including its own.

Academic Programmes

Ongoing academic programmes at MNS are:

- Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics and Electronics(APE)
- Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
- Bachelor of Science in Microbiology
- Bachelor of Science in Physics
- Master of Science in Biotechnology
- Double Major in Biotechnology
- Double Major in Mathematics
- Double Major in Microbiology
- Double Major in Physics
- Minor in Biotechnology
- Minor in Mathematics
- Minor in Microbiology
- Minor in Physics

Faculty Overview

There are 41 full-time teachers and 13 teaching assistants in the Department. The faculty members have strong academic and research backgrounds and some have international experience in academia and industry. They publish regularly in high impact journals and conferences.

Academic Achievements

The total number of students pursuing various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the department in 2016 was about 400. Fourteen UG and seven PG students from biotechnology, eighteen undergraduate students from microbiology, four undergraduate students from physics, three UG students from Applied Physics and Electronics completed their degrees.

Presentation of BS and MS Theses 2016

53 students defended their BS and MS theses under the different programmes of the Department.

Conferences/Workshops/Seminars/Symposia/Meetings/Lectures

122nd Birth Anniversary of Professor Satyendranath Bose

Bose Centre for Advanced Study and Research in Natural Sciences, University of Dhaka, (DU) observed the 122nd birth anniversary of Professor Satyendranath Bose, the renowned physicist. Professor Muhammad Ibrahim talked about the life and works of Professor S.N Bose. Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad and Professor Arshed Momen, University of Dhaka also addressed the audience. Professor A.A.Z Ahmad mentioned about his meeting with Professor S.N Bose in 1971.

Workshop Titled “Beyond Raw Data” by BRACU Natural Sciences Club (BUNSC)

“Beyond Raw Data” a workshop on the preparation and development of scientific publications, conducted by Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah was held

on 23 January 2016. The workshop was organized by BUNSC. The event was inaugurated by Professor Dr. A.A.Z. Ahmad at the MNS Department. Dr. Irfanullah conveyed his views on the topic through interactive approach.

UNISDR Science and Technology Conference, Geneva, Switzerland

Ms. Romana Siddique, attended the above-mentioned conference which took place from 27-29 January 2016 at Geneva, Switzerland. She presented a paper titled "Environmental Disaster Protection from Textile Sludge: A Biotechnology Based Approach". The meeting, which brought together more than 700 researchers and other stakeholders, aimed at developing a roadmap on how best science and technology could help achieve the implementation of the 2015 Sendai Framework.

Seminar on "Elastic Theory for the Deformation of a Spherical Dielectric Biological Object Under Electro-optical Trapping"

MNS Department organized the above mentioned seminar on 11 February 2016 at BRACU Auditorium. The speaker was Dr. Md. Mozammel Haque, Carol Davila University Hospital, Romania. Dr. Haque explained how very little amount of energy could trap cancer cells. He had developed some new techniques.

Workshop on Quality Assurance, Institutional Review, Assessment Process and Accreditation Standards: Role of Teaching Faculty

IQAC of BRACU organized the above-mentioned day-long workshop on 10 March 2016 at BRACU Auditorium. A few faculty members of MNS Department attended the event. Dr. M. H Rahman, Quality Assurance Specialist discussed various aspects of institutional review including variation of assessment process and accreditation standards of the various universities.

International Conference on Physics, Dhaka

Bangladesh Physical Society (BPS) arranged an International Conference on 10-12 March, 2016 AECD. At the Inaugural Ceremony Professor Shamima K. Chowdhury, Vice-President of BPS gave the welcome address. The Inaugural Address was given by the Chief Guest Professor Hironmoy Sengupta, formerly of the Department of Physics, DU. Professor A.A.Z Ahmad, President of BPS then delivered his Presidential Address and stressed on strengthening of physics education and research in

Bangladesh. On 12 March 2016, after the end of the technical sessions, the AGM of BPS was held. A new Executive Board of the society was elected for 2015-2017.

Consultation Workshop on Biosafety Regulatory Guidance Document

DoE, GOB, in collaboration with South Asia Biosafety Programme (SABP) organized the above-mentioned Workshop from 12-13 March 2016 to finalize the Biosafety Regulatory Guidance Document. It was held at the AMARI Hotel, Dhaka. Dr. Aparna Islam, attended this meeting. A hand book entitled "Recommendations and Options for Regulatory Process Guidance for the Bangladesh Biosafety Regulatory System" was discussed. This would be a helpful manual for those who wanted to work in the field of biotechnology in Bangladesh. On 13 March 2016 a small group of nine people were selected for an intensive discussion to finalize all the decisions of the first day. Dr. Islam was the only participant from the private sector who attended the meeting on the second day.

A Look at Digital Future

To understand the current trends and impacts of digitalization IQAC, BRACU organized a workshop entitled "A Look at Digital Future" on 31 March 2016. It took place at the GDLN Conference Room. Five students representing different programs of the MNS Department attended the workshop.

National Consultation Meeting of Biosafety Regulatory System

Dr. Aparna Islam, participated in the above-mentioned meeting. It was organized by the Department of Environment and Forests on 23 April 2016 at the Department of Botany, DU. Three documents namely biosafety policy, monitoring and enforcement manual and amendments to the biosafety rules and guidelines were finalized in the meeting. Ten scientists and legal personnel working in various public universities and national research institutes participated in the meeting.

Seminar Titled "Time Reverse Imaging of Tsunami Waveforms"

Dr. Md Jakir Hossen presented his research work in the above-mentioned seminar organized by the MNS Department on Thursday, 19 May, 2016. Application of Time Reverse Imaging (TRI) to tsunami waveform data, in order to recover the initial sea surface displacement associated with the tsunami source was discussed.

Lectures at NOAMI

Professor A.A.Z Ahmad delivered a couple of lectures at the NOAMI office to the participants of the 13th Training Course on Oceanography: Principles and Applications on 1 June 2016. Professor Ahmad covered various aspects of sound, acoustics, optics, heat and thermodynamics, etc. to the participants who came from Bangladesh Navy and different R/D organizations of the country. MOST, GOB financed the training course.

AGM of NOAMI and Election

The AGM of NOAMI was held at NOAMI office. After the presentation of the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer the meeting discussed various matters regarding NOAMI's activities and the modus operandi for strengthening them. The Chairman of NOAMI, Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad then gave his presidential address. Following the AGM, the election for Board of Governors of NOAMI was held. The new Board of Governors was elected uncontested. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Chairman, BAERA has been elected as the next Chairman of NOAMI.

Seminar Titled "Study of free energy and energy of mixing for $\text{Cu}(x)\text{Al}(1-x)$ Liquid Binary Alloys at Thermodynamic State 1373 K."

Mr. Fysol Ibna Abbas, Teaching Assistant in Physics, presented his research work in the above-mentioned seminar organized by the MNS Department on 16 June, 2016. In his research, Mr. Abbas has systematically investigated thermodynamic properties, in particular, the free energy and energy of mixing for $\text{Cu}_x\text{Al}(1-x)$ liquid binary alloys using the first order perturbation theory.

Seminar on "Imaginary Numbers: A Story"

MNS Department organized a seminar entitled, "Imaginary Numbers: A Story" on 14 July, 2016 at 10:00 am. The speaker was Mr. Mohammad Hassan Murad, Lecturer of Mathematics. In this seminar the speaker talked about the startling and insistent intrusion of mysterious objects in mathematics, usually called imaginary numbers (square roots of negative numbers). He discussed the fascinating story, the major breakthroughs, and great achievements of the history of imaginary numbers.

Seminar on "Green Chemistry"

MNS Department organized a seminar entitled, "Green Chemistry" on 18 July, 2016. The speaker was Dr. Dawood Afzal, Professor of chemistry, Truman State University, Kirksville, USA. The speaker emphasized on Green Chemistry concepts and practices based on a few fundamental principles that evolved out of a need to address the negative impact of industrial pollution build-up and its adverse impact on human health as well as our environment during the 19th and 20th centuries in the industrial world. Lab safety and pollution prevention and ways to design "Green Labs" was also discussed in the seminar.

Seminar on "Towards Raw Data"

A seminar entitled "Towards Raw Data" was held at GDLN Conference Room on 21 July, 2016. It was an interactive session between course coordinators and managing team and around thirty senior students from microbiology and biotechnology programs. Dr. Aparna Islam, Dr. Mahboob Hossain and MS. Shahana Chowdhury were the key speakers of this informative session. During the session Dr. Islam emphasized on thesis work and other plant biotechnology based topics, while Dr. Hossain emphasized on topics related to microorganisms. Towards the end of the seminar Professor A. A. Z. Ahmad told the students who were going to start theses in the near future to stay up-to-date about general and subject knowledge that would help them build confidence and more acceptance in the international arena.

Conference of AOGS (Asia Oceania Geosciences Society) held in Beijing, China

Dr. Md Jakir Hossen participated in the Conference - AOGS (Asia Oceania Geosciences Society) held in Beijing, China from 31 July to 05 August, 2016. He presented results of his research in the conference and got positive feedback from the audience. Dr. Hossen works on mathematical geophysics, particularly tsunamis triggered by undersea earthquakes, submarine landslides, meteorite impacts, etc. He utilizes mathematical tools for developing a very efficient method for tsunami forecasting and tsunami source inversion.

American Society of Microbiology (ASM) Seminar

MNS Department jointly with American Society for Microbiology organized a seminar on Wednesday,

31 August 2016. Dr. Firdausi Qadri, Acting Senior Director, ICDDR,B was the keynote speaker of the seminar. She first described the opportunities of research in different areas of microbiology and the functions and benefits of being associated with ASM.

Participation in the 4th Annual South Asia Biosafety Conference, Hyderabad, India

Dr. Aparna Islam participated in the “4th Annual South Asia Biosafety Conference” held in Hyderabad, India from 19-21 September 2016. She participated in the poster session where her research on climate change mitigation for tomato crop production was presented.

Participation at the “Young Scientists Congress”

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) and Inter Academy Partnership (IAP) jointly organized the “Young Scientists Congress” from 27-28 October 2016 at the auditorium of National Museum of Science and Technology, Agargaon, Dhaka. A group of faculty members of the MNS Department, in the biotechnology and microbiology programmes along with two teaching assistants attended the programme. The areas of research were health, agriculture, engineering, environment, etc.

Participation at the “Women Scientists Mentor-Mentees Programme”

BAS and FAP jointly organized the “Women Scientists Mentor-Mentees Program” on 29 October 2016 at the auditorium of National Museum of Science and Technology, Agargaon, Dhaka. Two faculty members Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury, and Ms. Romana Siddique attended the program. Challenges of the women scientists were discussed in the programme.

Fifth International Symposium on Heat Transfer and Energy Conservation (ISHTEC-2016), Guangzhou, China

Ms. Sharmina Hussain attended the 5th International Symposium on Heat Transfer and Energy Conservation (ISHTEC-2016), held from 11-14 November 2016 at Guangzhou, China. More than 300 scientists from different parts of the world, graced this occasion with their valuable research presentations. Ms. Hussain presented one of her research findings entitled “Heat and Mass Transfer Response along Heated Horizontal Circular

Cylinder for Mixed Convection Flow” on 12 November 2016 and her oral presentation was appreciated by the audience.

Seminar on “Study on the Predictability of the Physical and Dynamical Characteristics of the Troposphere Associated with Nor'westers using WRF Model”

NOAMI arranged the above-mentioned seminar on Saturday, 26 November 2016 at NOAMI Office. Dr. Samarendra Karmakar, Former Director, Bangladesh Meteorological Department presented the seminar, which was based on a project carried out with financial assistance from the MOST, GOB. The audience consisted of NOAMI members and researchers from different R/D organizations. The function was presided over by Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad.

Hands-on Experience Workshop in Microbiology and Molecular Biology at BRACU

Biotechnology and Microbiology programmes of MNS Dept in collaboration with American Society for Microbiology (ASM) organized a day-long workshop on 19 December 2016 at the auditorium of BRACU. Professor A. A. Z Ahmad was present in the occasion as the Chief Guest. He encouraged the young students to take up career in biology especially in microbiology and biotechnology. At the closing session Professor Dr. Rita Yusuf, Dean of the School of Life Sciences, IUB was present as the Chief Guest and distributed crests and certificates. She also handed over the crests to IUB students, the winning team of the debate competition.

Study Tours and Visits

Visit to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP)

Thirty students along with three faculty members of the biotechnology and microbiology programs visited AFIP on 14 January 2016 to have a practical idea on the diagnostic microbiology and immunology. There the students were shown how pathological specimens such as blood were cultured. There was practical demonstration on various tests for bacterial identification, interpretation of Western blotting results and ELISA for viral identification and many other relevant techniques. The team was led by Dr. M. Mahboob Hossain.

Visit to the AERE and the National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB) at Savar

A group of twenty eight undergraduate students from biotechnology program of the MNS Department visited the AERE and the NIB with two faculty members, Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury and Ms. Abira Khan on 3 March 2016. At AERE, they were accompanied by scientists to see the various research facilities at the Institute of Food and Radiation Biology and Tissue Banking and Biomaterial Research Centre.

Visit to the Incepta Pharmaceuticals Limited

A group of students from biotechnology program of the MNS Department, visited the Zirabo Plant of Incepta Pharmaceuticals Limited at Savar on 12 March 2016. The team included twenty four UG and MS students accompanied by three faculty members. The team were given an overview of physical, chemical and microbiological quality control of pharmaceutical products using sophisticated machines like HPLC, UHPLC, IR, LC-MS-MS etc. Overall, the visit provided the students a practical learning experience of various technologies used in pharmaceutical industry.

Visit to the Bangladesh National Herbarium

A group of undergraduate students from biotechnology programme of the MNS Department visited Bangladesh National Herbarium (BNH), located at Zoo Road, Mirpur, Dhaka on 28 July 2016, with two of the faculty members of the Department, Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury and Ms. Romana Siddique. At BNH, the students were first briefed about the history of the herbarium, its administration, activities carried out by BNH together with its vision and mission. Then the students visited herbarium laboratory, where preservation activities, scientific research, classification and proper storage of plant species in herbarium paper is done.

Visit to the Water Treatment Plant at Saidabad

A group of 37 UG and PG students from biotechnology and microbiology programmes visited the Water Treatment Plant at Saidabad with two faculty members on 03 November, 2016. The team was given an informative briefing on the different treatment processes, like pre-chlorination, coagulation, filtration, disinfection, pH correction which were used at the plant to make the water potable as well as wholesome to the consumers.

Visit to the BRAC Dairy and Food, Gazipur

A group of students of BS biotechnology programme visited the BRAC Dairy and Food, Gazipur on 24 November 2016. The team consisted of thirty three students and three faculty members. The visiting team was then taken around the different laboratories, production floors and the powder milk production plant.

Training on Self-Assessment

One-day training on “Self-Assessment Concepts and Techniques” was held on Thursday, 14 January 2016 at GDLN Conference Room organized by IQAC, BRACU. Dr. Aparna Islam, Mr. Mahabobe Shobahani, Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury and Ms. Romana Siddique attended the programme as members of Self-Assessment Committee (SAC).

MNS Faculty Elected Executive Member of Bangladesh Mathematical Society

Mr. Mohammad Maruf Ahmed has been elected Executive Member of “Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS) held on 15 January 2016 at A F Mujibur Rahman Ganit Bhaban, DU for the year 2016-17.

International Plastic Summit

18 students and 3 faculty members of the MNS Department attended the seminar of the “Plastic Waste Management” as part of the International Plastic Summit 2016, held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre from 19-22 January 2016. Several studies regarding the management and use of plastic waste both in Bangladesh and abroad were presented in the seminar.

Inaugural Ceremony of the Twelfth Training Course on Oceanography; Principles and Applications, Dhaka

The Inaugural Ceremony of the above-mentioned training course was held at the auditorium of the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka (AECDC) on 19 March 2016. The course was organized by NOAMI with financial assistance from the Ministry of Science and Technology, GOB. Professor Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Gono Bishwabidyalay and also the President of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences graced the occasion as its Chief Guest. Professor Naiyyum Chowdhury, Vice-Chairman of NOAMI gave the Welcome Address. In his Inaugural Address, Professor Mesbahuddin Ahmed lauded the role

played by NOAMI for promoting the study of oceanography in Bangladesh. Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad, Chairman, NOAMI presided over the function.

“Training on Basic Biotechnology” at NIB at Savar

The “Training on Basic Biotechnology” arranged by NIB was held from 5-10 March 2016. For the first time, two MS students, Ms. Maisha Mosharrat Chowdhury and Ms. Tasmin Naila from the MS in Biotechnology programme participated in this training. Twenty students from nine different universities took part in the training. On the last day, at the Closing and Certificate Award Ceremony certificates were given to the participants by Dr. Md. Salimullah, DG, NIB. Dr. Shakil Ahmed Khan, CSO and Divisional Head, Insect Biotechnology, IFRB, AERE was present as the Chief Guest.

Green Dhaka Campus Campaign, Dhaka

BRACU Earth and Environment Forum arranged the above-mentioned seminar in cooperation with Agricultural Extension Department, GOB, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Universal Medical College and Hospital Ltd. and Dhaka North City Corporation on 23 March 2016 at BRACU auditorium. Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad spoke as a Special Guest on the occasion.

Poster Presentation by BRACU Students at the World DNA Day celebration

Two undergraduate students, Rifaquat Ahmed and Mehnaz Tabassum, from biotechnology programme presented a poster at the World DNA Day celebration organized by the Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, DU on 25 April 2016. The theme of the poster competition was “Biotechnology-based innovative approaches for national development”. The students selected the recent discovery of plastic degrading bacteria as the topic for their poster and explained to the audience how this would be used to solve the current pollution problem of the country.

Visit of MNS Department by Students of Scholastica School

About 10-12 A-level students in science group of Scholastica School, Dhaka came to visit the MNS Department on 21 June 2016 at 12.30 pm. Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad addressed the students and talked about the importance and relevance of science education in general and the facilities that

MNS Department provides for teaching basic science subjects like physics, applied physics and electronics, mathematics, biotechnology and microbiology. Later, the students visited the labs of the MNS Department.

Closing and Certificate Award Ceremony

The Closing and Certificate Award Ceremony of the “Twelfth Training Course on Oceanography: Principles and Applications” organized by NOAMI was held at the auditorium of the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka on Saturday, 6 August 2016. Architect Yafesh Osman, Minister of MOST graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The function was presided over by NOAMI Chairman, Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad and was attended by NOAMI members, resource persons, participants of the training course and other distinguished researchers and scientists. The function was followed by a dinner in a local restaurant.

Best Researcher Award 2015

Dr. Hasibun Naher received the “Best Researcher Award 2015” on 10 November 2016. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG, Chairperson of BRAC University's Board of Trustees handed over the award. Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Vice-chancellor of BRACU, Members of the BOT, the Syndicate and the Academic Council, faculty members and other distinguished guests were present on the occasion. Dr. Naher received the award for her outstanding scientific research work.

8th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad- 2016

The MNS Department in collaboration with Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS) organized the Regional Round (Dhaka North Region) of the 8th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad- 2016 on 12 November 2016 at the BRACU campus in the city. Students of 29 public and private universities and colleges from Dhaka North Region took part in this Olympiad where BRACU students by their extraordinary performance have secured most of the top-level positions. A total of 5 students, out of the 10 best ones, were selected from BRACU in this regional round.

Awareness Building Programme on Nuclear Power Generation, Dhaka

Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad was the Special Guest in the Awareness Building Programme on Nuclear

Power Generation arranged by the Law Society of School of Law, BRACU and Rotary Club of Dhaka North South held in the BRACU Auditorium on Monday, 28 November 2016. Dr. M. Shafiqul Islam, Department of Nuclear Engineering, DU was the keynote speaker. Mr. Mohammad Ayub, District Governor RI District 3281 was the Chief Guest at the function attended by faculty members, researchers from different universities and R/D organizations and BRACU students.

Awards in the 8th International PTC&B Conference, Dhaka

A team of eight including faculty members and students from the biotechnology programme of MNS Department participated in the 8th International Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology Conference held at Dhaka from 3-5 December 2016. The biotechnology team presented five research papers and one poster in four different scientific sessions and a poster session. One of the papers received the Best Presentation Award and the poster received the Best Poster Award. Mr. Md. Rafid Feisal, Teaching Assistant presented the best awarded paper entitled "In silico analysis, homology modelling and comparison between salt tolerance determinants *Arabidopsis thaliana* Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger 1 and 2 (AtNHX1 and AtNHX2) proteins". Mr. Md. Mubassir Rahman and Ms. Anamika Datta, a Graduate student and a Teaching Assistant respectively, presented the best poster awarded in this event. The title of their poster was "Tissue culture independent transformation of three tomato varieties with AtNHX1, a vacuolar antiporter for salinity tolerance".

The 8th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad- 2016 (Final Round)

The Mathematics Department of BUET in collaboration with Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS) organized the Final Round of the 8th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad (NUMO)- 2016 on 23 December 2016 at BUET campus in the city. A total of 60 students selected from six regions of Bangladesh competed in the final round. This was the final round for selecting the most talented and brightest undergraduate mathematicians. Five students from BRACU took part in the Final Round competition. Sadat Husain from MNS Department secured the 6th position in the 8th NUMO-2016 competition and upheld the flag of BRACU.

Publications:

Book

Impact Evaluation Study on Artificial Insemination Activities Extension and Embryo Transfer Technology Implementation Project (Phase-II). (2016). Md. Mufazzel Hossain, Md. Jahangir Alam, Mohammad Rafiqul Islam. Evaluation Sector, Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), Ministry of Planning, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh, June 2016 by Samahar Consultants Ltd.

Journal Articles:

Local Journals

Faria Mahjabeen, Sazzad Khan, Naiyyum Choudhury, M. Mahboob Hossain and Trosparsha Tasnim Khan. 2016. Isolation of Cellulolytic Bacteria from Soil, Identification by 16S rRNA Gene Sequencing and Characterization of Cellulase. Bangladesh Journal of Microbiology. Volume 33. Accepted.

Md. Saiful Islam, Chitra Das, Mehnaz Sharmin, Kazi Md. Amzad Hussain and Shamima Choudhury. 2016. Effect of Doping Concentration on the Optical Properties of Indium-Doped Gallium Arsenide thin films. Journal of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences. 40(2) 179-186.

Mitali Biswas, Mehnaz Sharmin, Chitra Das, Jibon Poddar and Shamima Choudhury. 2016. Structural and Optical Characterization of Magnesium Doped Zinc Oxide Thin Films Deposited by Spray Pyrolysis. Dhaka University Journal of Science. 64(1) 1-6.

S. S. Riva, Aparna Islam and M. E. Hoque. 2016. In vitro Regeneration and Rapid Multiplication of *Dendrobium bensoniae*, an Indigenous Ornamental Orchid. The Agriculturists 14(2): 24-31. Doi:10.3329/agric.v14i2.29096

Tasnia Islam, Naiyyum Choudhury, M. Mahboob Hossain and Trosparsha Tasnim Khan. 2016. Isolation of Amylase Producing Bacteria from Soil, Identification by 16S rRNA Gene Sequencing and Characterization of Amylase. Bangladesh Journal of Microbiology. Volume 33. Accepted.

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International Journals

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J. Dettmer , R. Hawkins, P. R. Cummins, J. Hossen, M. Sambridge, R. Hino, and D. Inazu. 2016. Tsunami source uncertainty estimation: The 2011 Japan tsunami, J. Geophys. Res. Solid Earth, 121, 44834505, doi:10.1002/2015JB012764

M.H. Murad 2016. Some analytical models of anisotropic strange stars. Astrophys. Space Sci. 361:20 doi: 10.1007/s10509-015-2582-2

Md. Mahafuzur Rahaman, Kazi Md. Amjad Hussain, Mehnaz Sharmin, Chitra Das, Shamima Choudhury. 2016. Structure, Morphology and Opto-Electrical Properties of Nanostructured Indium Doped SnO₂ Thin Films Deposited by Thermal Evaporation. European Scientific Journal. 12(27) 263-275.

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P. Bhar , M. H. Murad. 2016. Relativistic compact anisotropic charged stellar models with Chaplygin equation of state. Astrophys. Space Sci. 361:334 doi:10.1007/s10509-016-2923

Q. M. Ul Hassan, H. Naher, F. A. Abdulla, S. T. Mohyud-Din. 2016. Solutions of the nonlinear evolution equation via the generalized Riccati equation mapping together with the (G'/G)-expansion method. Journal of Computational Analysis & Applications, 21(1) 62-82.

Zubaida Marufee Islam, Kasmery Khan, Shagoofa Rakhshanda, Rabab Mahdi and Iftekhar Muhammad Chowdhury. 2016. Antibacterial and Phytochemical Screening of Pimpinella anisum through optimized extraction procedure. Asian

Journal of Science and Technology. 07(11), 3912-3918.

Nazneen Jahan, Jamil Mahmud, Fatema Akter, Salekul Islam and M. Hasibur Rahman. 2016. Diversity of Plasmid Profile in Multi-drug Resistant Non- E. coli Intestinal Flora Lacking Association with Resistance Phenomenon. British Microbiology Research Journal 14(6): 1-8.

Fahim Shafa, Mohammad Shahriar, F. A. Dain Md. Opo, Rumana Akhter, M. Mahboob Hossain and Nayyium Choudhury (2016) Characterization of phytoconstituents, in vitro antioxidant activity and pharmacological investigation of the root extract of Typhonium trilobatum. International journal of pharmaceutical sciences and research. 7 (4): 1694 - 1704.

M. Mahboob Hossain, Sharmin Biswas, Zubaida Marufee Islam. (2016) Study of some commonly prescribed antibiotics against some infectious disease in Bangladesh. International journal of Pharmaceutics and drug analysis 4(4): 165-171.

Abstracts

Local

J. Choudhury and I. Rahman. 2016. Analysis of phytochemical constituents and antioxidant activity of Bangladeshi green tea (Camellia sinensis)" in the 8th International Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology Conference, 2016 Dhaka, Bangladesh (December 03-05) at University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

J. Choudhury and Naima. 2016. Phytochemical screening of Artemisia nilagirica" in the 8th International Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology Conference, 2016 Dhaka, Bangladesh (December 03-05) at University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

M.M Rahman, A. Datta, Z.I. Seraj and Aparna Islam. 2016. Tissue culture independent transformation of three tomato varieties with AtNHX1, a vacuolar antiporter for salinity tolerance. 8th International Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 3-5 December 2016.

M.R. Feisal and A. Islam. 2016. In silico analysis, homology modelling and comparison between salt tolerance determinants Arabidopsis thaliana Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger 1 and 2 (AtNHX1 and AtNHX2) proteins. 8th International Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 3-5 December 2016.

A. Datta, M-E-M Ferdous, S. Razzaque, Z.I. Seraj and A. Islam. 2016. Genetic transformation of two tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* Mill.) explants by introducing Na^+/H^+ antiporter gene to generate transgenics to resist salinity stress. 8th International Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 3-5 December 2016.

M.M. Chowdhury, S.Z. Shormee, A.T. Oshin, S. Chowdhury and A. Islam. 2016. In vitro regeneration of sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.): a promising oil seed crop for the coastal region of Bangladesh. 8th International Plant Tissue Culture

and Biotechnology Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 3-5 December 2016.

International

H. Naher. 2016. Analytical Solutions of Coupled Nonlinear Evolution Equations in Mathematical Physics, 3rd Computational Mathematics and Applications Conference (CMA 2016) 14-16 January, 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand.

H. Naher. 2016. Analytical Approach for the Nonlinear Coupled Equations, The 4th International Conference on Mathematical Sciences (ICMS4) Palm Garden, IOI Resort, Putrajaya, 15-17 November, 2016.



Department of Pharmacy



Pharmacy is a noble profession which deals with alleviating human sufferings caused by various diseases through the use of various drug products. This field is concerned with the development and dispensation of medications from different natural and synthetic sources as well as the optimization of the physical, chemical, biological and pharmacological actions of these pharmaceutical products. The Pharmacy programme offers an outstanding degree to start off a career in the pharmaceutical industry by providing the necessary professional knowledge, hands-on experience and research skills. This programme also serves as a platform for young pharmacists to perform and compete not only in the local arena but also globally.

Our Vision

To inspire our students towards maintaining a high standard and fostering innovative thinking that will work for the betterment of the pharmaceutical industry as well as of mankind.

Our Mission

To develop and nurture competent students who will become leaders and innovators in pharmaceutical education, research, development and practice.

Programme

Currently, the Department of Pharmacy is offering Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm) degree for the enrolled students. The curriculum in BRAC University (BRACU) is designed to introduce the students to the technological and scientific aspects underlying the preparation of various dosage forms and drug delivery systems and to their use in patient care. B. Pharm. is a four-year integrated

course which is divided into eight consecutive semesters and accredited by Bangladesh Pharmacy Council. With twenty full-time faculty members and many renowned guest faculty members from their respective field, the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU, started their journey in 2010 offering courses in physiology, pharmacognosy, pharmacology, pharmaceutical technology, biopharmaceutics and pharmacokinetics, clinical pharmacy, medicinal chemistry, regulatory affairs, etc. The department also has five modern laboratories to demonstrate laboratory work and conduct advanced-level research.

Faculty Overview

The faculty members of the Department of Pharmacy have graduated from reputed public and private institutions having obtained advanced degrees from Bangladesh and also from renowned universities all over the world. They are actively involved in research areas such as pharmaceutical technology, pharmacology, epidemiology, pharmaceutical marketing, environmental toxicology and phytochemistry.

Educational and Other Activities

Seminars

The Department of Pharmacy organized a seminar titled "Exploring Leadership" with the close association of BRACU Pharma Society (BUPS) in February 2016. The seminar was held at the BRACU auditorium and it was coordinated by a group of four members of BYLC (Bangladesh Youth Leadership Centre) team. Another seminar was organized in the same month at the BRACU auditorium titled "Doing Now What Patients Need

Next". It was conducted by a group of four members of Roche Bangladesh Ltd. and the keynote speaker of this seminar was Dr. Mohammad Afroz Jalil, Managing Director and Country Manager of Roche Bangladesh Ltd. The seminar was held mainly to draw attention to the students of the Department of Pharmacy towards "Pharmacovigilance", a vibrant topic in the Pharma Industry these days. A rather pragmatic seminar on climate change was organized in April, 2016 in association with BUPS at the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU. Mr. M. Zubair Hossain, President, Green Steps Partner (GSP) was the keynote speaker on this occasion.

In October, 2016 the department organized a seminar, titled 'Better English for a Brighter Future' at the BRACU auditorium. The seminar was conducted by Dr. Mark Bartholomew, Director of Quality Assessment and Capacity Building, BRACU. The seminar was organized to introduce the students of the Department of Pharmacy to the website 'Read Listen Learn'.

Lastly two seminars, titled 'Recent Developments in Molecular Medicine' and 'Informatics in Target-based Drug Discovery' were also organized by the department in the last two consecutive months of November and December 2016. The speaker of these seminars were Dr. Rasheduzzaman Chowdhury, Research Scientist, University of Oxford, United Kingdom. These seminars were organized to introduce the students to the recent prospects of molecular medicine and informatics in target-based drug discovery and development.

Workshops

In February 2016 four faculty members of the Department of Pharmacy attended the TLC Follow-up Workshop at the BRACU auditorium. The BRACU Pharma Society (BUPS) also organized an 'IT workshop' at the Department of Pharmacy premises in April 2016. In July 2016 the same organization hosted an Academic Development Session (ADS) for the students. It was conducted by the two faculty members of the department, Dr. Zulfiquer Hossain (Associate Professor) and Mr. Samiul Alam Rajib (Senior Lecturer). A workshop on 'Organizing Your Research with a Citation Manager' was also organized by the Department of Pharmacy in July 2016 for its students as well as for the faculty members, which was also conducted by Mr. Samiul Alam Rajib. In August 2016 an Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) workshop was hosted by the Self-Assessment Committee (SAC) of the Department for the faculty members.

Campaign & Community Service

In January 2016, the students of the Department of Pharmacy, under the banner of BUPS (BRACU Pharma Society) donated clothes at Kamalapur and Korail slum. In March 2016 the organization celebrated and campaigned for "World Tuberculosis Day" to fight against tuberculosis, one of the world's top infectious killers. In March, 2016 the department organized a campaign to promote "Oral Health Day". The purpose of the campaign was to provide a platform to participate in the world-wide effort to convey the message regarding oral health in a single, unifying and simple manner. This campaign was sponsored by Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd. In April, 2016 a team of 17 members of BUPS along with three faculty members of the Department of Pharmacy with the help of a physician participated in the health checkup campaign at the outfall Telegupara Community School. In the same month, BUPS participated in a clean-up programme, entitled "Save Buriganga, Save Dhaka's heart" at the Buriganga river bank area to celebrate "Earth Day". The campaign was organized by a non-profit organization, Green steps Partner (GSP), based in Maryland, USA. Volunteers from different organizations such as BUPS, University of Liberal Arts (ULAB) and different Rotaract clubs participated in the programme. In order to continue with this motto of raising awareness against diseases, BUPS again came forward with an idea to celebrate "World Malaria Day". The event was organized in April 2016 with a slogan "End Malaria for Good". On this occasion, the team BUPS arranged an online awareness campaign to convey a sustainable message regarding the consequences of malaria to the general mass. The BUPS also celebrated 'World Pharmacist's Day' in September 2016 by distributing leaflets reflecting the contribution of pharmacists to our society in BRACU Mohakhali campus.

List of Publications

In 2016, the faculty members of the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU published a good number of research articles in many international peer reviewed journals, which include major fields such as Pharmaceutical Technology, Pharmacology, Phytochemistry and Environmental Toxicology, etc. The list of publications are given below:

Hossain MZ, Kabir ER, Hossain MZ (2016). A Novel Health Insurance Scheme for Cancer Care in Bangladesh. *Rev. Integr. Bus. Econ. Res.* 5(3): 183-223.

Parvin S, Islam MS, Al-Mamun MM, Islam MS, Ahmed MU, Kabir ER, Hasnat A (2016). Association

of BRCA1, BRCA2, RAD51, and HER2 gene polymorphisms with the breast cancer risk in the Bangladeshi population. *Breast Cancer*, Springer. PubMed.

Islam M and Kabir ER (2016). Development of a Strategic Model of Customer Relationship Management for the Pharmaceutical Industry of Bangladesh. *African Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology*. 10(19): 430-441.

Neelotpol S, Hay AWM, Jolly AJ, Woolridge MW (2016). Challenges of collecting bio-matrices from ethnic minority in clinical and epidemiological research: Evidence from UK. *BMJ Open*. 6:e010554 doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2015-010554.

Neelotpol S and Hia RA (2016). Lead exposure of Bangladeshi women at child bearing age: Do education and practice matter? *Journal of Local and Global Health Sciences*.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.5339/jlghs.2016.1>.

Akter R, Uddin SJ, Tiralongo J, Grice ID, Tiralongo E (2016). A new cytotoxic diterpenoid glycoside from the leaves of *Blumea lacera* and its effects on apoptosis and cell cycle. *Nat Prod. Res.* 2016 Mar 16:1-6. In press.

Shahriar M, Khair N.Z, Sheikh Z, Chowdhury S.F et al (2016). Phytochemical Analysis, Cytotoxic and In vitro Antioxidant Activity of *Erythrina variegata* Bark. *European Journal of Medicinal Plants*. 11(3): 1-5

Shahriar M, Khair N.Z, Sheikh Z, Chowdhury S.F et al (2016). Characterization of phytoconstituents and potential bioactivity of *Annona reticulata* L. leaf extract. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry*. 5(1): 42-45

Tasnim F., Rahman I., Rahman M.S. & Islam R. (2016). A Review of Occupational Health Safety in Bangladesh with respect to Asian Continent. *International Journal of Public health and Safety*. 1: 102. doi: 10.4172/ijphs.1000102.

Sunjida SB, Rahman I, Yesmine S, Islam R (2016). Assessing the Quality of Household and Drinking Water in Tongi Industrial Zone of Bangladesh and Its Toxicological Impact on Healthy Sprague Dawley Rats. *Journal of Applied Pharmacy*. 8:224. doi:10.4172/1920-4159.1000224.

Huq S, Ali MS, Islam R, Manzoor F, Rahman I (2016). Biological Evaluation of Native and Exotic Plants of Bangladesh. *Journal of Applied Pharmacy*. 8:226. doi:10.4172/1920-4159.1000226.

Ripa FA, Dash PR, Podder AK (2016). Anti-diarrheal and hypoglycemic activities of methanol extract of

Calamus rotang L. seed in rat. *Research Journal of Pharmacognosy (RJP)*. Volume 3, Issue 2, Spring 2016; page: 33-40; Iranian Society of Pharmacognosy No.8 Shams Alley, Vali-e-Asr Street, Tehran, Iran, PO Box: 1516745811.

Uddin MS, Haque A, Mamun AA, Iqbal MA, Kabir MT, RonyRK and Begum M (2016). Searching the Linkage between High Fat Diet and Alzheimer's Disease: A Debatable Proof Stand for Ketogenic Diet to Alleviate Symptoms of Alzheimer's Patient with APOE e4 Allele. *Journal of Neurology & Neurophysiology*. 7:397.

Kabir MT, Basak D, Rahman MA, Sarker MAK, Ahmed S and Hasan M (2016). The Scenario of COPD in Dhaka City Bangladesh: Extensive Analysis of the Prevalence, Manifestations and Standards of Diagnosis & Treatment. *International Journal of Research in Pharmacology & Pharmacotherapeutics*. 5(2), 192-198.

Akram, F and Kabir, MT, (2016). Characterization of Gliclazide-Loaded Combination of Polymer Microspheres Prepared by Emulsification Solvent Evaporation Method. *Scholars Academic Journal of Pharmacy*. 5(8), 309-316.

Kabir, MT, Munir, MS and Rahman, MA, (2016). Self-emulsifying Drug Delivery System (SEDDS): An Approach for Solubility, Dissolution and Bioavailability Enhancement of Furosemide. *Scholars Academic Journal of Pharmacy*. 5(7), 289-296.

Conference Paper

A Novel Health Insurance Scheme for Cancer Care in Bangladesh' at the SIBR (Society of Interdisciplinary Business Research) -Thammasat', Bangkok Conference on 'Interdisciplinary Business and Economics Research (2016).

Association of COQ2 and TNF alpha gene polymorphisms with the toxicity regarding the cholesterol lowering effect of HMG CoA Reductase Inhibitors (Statins) in hyperlipidemic subjects-Second South Asian Biotechnology Conference (SABC).

Industrial Training

In 2016, (January 2016-21 students; September 2016-22 students and December 2016-7 students) about 50 students from the Department of Pharmacy went for industrial training at Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Sanofi Bangladesh Ltd., Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and Eskayef Bangladesh Ltd. as a requirement for fulfillment of their B. Pharm. degree.

Industrial Visit:

On 1 October 2016, the students and three faculty members from the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU went for a day-long visit to the manufacturing plant of Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd., a leading pharmaceutical company located at Tongi, Gazipur.

Student Activity

In March 2016, two teams each consisting of two students of the Department of Pharmacy, led by Md. Samiul Alam Rajib, who is a Senior Lecturer in the Department, participated in the Pharma Fest programme "Get Solution, Not Just Medication". The Pharma Fest was held at North South University (NSU) and was attended by the students of several universities such as University of Dhaka, Khulna University, East West University, etc. An ex-student of the Department of Pharmacy, Brata Katha Nath, recently received the ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations), 2016-2017 scholarship, awarded by the Indian Government to study "Masters in Pharmacy" at the Gujarat Technological University, India. In July 2016, one of the students from the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU, Qazi Ashrafur Rahman Abir, was elected Regional Relationship Officer, 2016-2017 of IPSF, APPO (International Pharmaceutical Students Federation, Asia Pacific Regional Office). In October, 2016, the 'Pharma Phantoms', the team created by three students of the department won the grand finale of first intra-university quiz competition of BRACU. In October, 2016, the new executive body of 'Pharmacist Welfare Association of Bangladesh' was announced and some of the students from the department were selected as potential members of this executive body. A graduate of the Department of Pharmacy, Samin Huq, has joined WHO Bangladesh Country Office as a Project Facilitator of IVD (Immunization and Vaccine Development) Programme - Bangladesh in the Chittagong Division. In November 2016, the new panel of BRACU Pharma Society (BUPS) was elected and this election was held at the Indoor games premise of BRACU. The BUPS club also participated in an inter-club cricket tournament, BRACU Premier League (BUPL), organized by Cricket BRACU (CBU) club at the Shamoli club field in November 2016. In December 2016, Marzana Monefa, a student of the Department of Pharmacy was selected as one of the youth delegates at 100 members Bangladeshi youth delegation visit to India 2016.

Activity of Faculty Members

In June 2016, the faculty members of Department of Pharmacy, BRACU went for an iftar at the Lakeshore Hotel, Banani, Dhaka. Md. Samiul Alam

Rajib, who is a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Pharmacy, participated in the International Biology Olympiad as a member of the Jury. In October 2016, some of the faculty members of the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU attended a seminar, titled 'Innovative Technology in Pharmacy Compounding and Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs' at Lakeshore Banani, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

In November, 2016, two faculty members of the Department of Pharmacy, Zara Sheikh, Senior Lecturer and Monica Sharfin Rahman, Lecturer were nominated for the "BRACU Faculty and Staff Awards" in the best teaching category. The award ceremony was held at the BRAC Centre, Gulshan, Dhaka. In this award ceremony, Zara Sheikh, Senior Lecturer, Department of Pharmacy received the best teacher award for the year 2015.

Events

The BRACU Pharma Society (BUPS) and Department of Pharmacy, BRACU has jointly celebrated the International Mother Language Day by organizing a cultural event entitled "Ekush Mane Matha Noto Na Kora" in February 2016 at BRACU auditorium. A photo exhibition by the students of the Department had also been organized for the same purpose.

BUPS organized an orientation programme for the students of Spring 2016 semester of the Department of Pharmacy in March 2016. BUPS always makes an effort to create a festive mood among the students by celebrating the Bengali culture and all its traditions. With this in mind, in April 2016, BUPS arranged a fun activity, Mehedi Uthshob, just before the day of Pohela Boishakh at BRACU, Mohakhali campus. A small get together of BUPS members was organized to increase the interaction among its members at Café Euphoria in the month of May, 2016. BUPS also arranged an iftar party at the indoor games premise of BRACU campus in June 2016. In September 2016, the BUPS jointly organized a Club Fair, Summer 2016, 'Club de Carnaval' with the other clubs of BRACU. The day chosen for the fair was 'World Pharmacist's Day', and therefore, it was an immense pleasure for the BUPS members to honour the day in the club fair.

Projects by the Students

The Department of Pharmacy arranged project presentation of the students of Spring' 2012 semester in March 2016 and in September 2016. The students came up with interesting projects under the supervision of various faculty members in different major fields such as Pharmaceutical Technology, Pharmacology, Phytochemistry, Environmental Toxicology, etc.



Inspiring Excellence



Inspiring Excellence

INSTITUTES

BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED)
BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)
BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL)

BRAC Institute of Educational Development



VISION

A world where all children grow up with dignity as informed and healthy adults.

MISSION

BIED will strive to be a centre for innovation in educational development and wellbeing.

WHAT WE DO

Since July 2004 BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED) has aimed at contributing to the development of the national education through activities that are specially designed to tap into potential and emerging areas through academics, professional & capacity development as well as research.

BIED works to develop the education sector in Bangladesh from multi-dimensional angles through: large-scale educational researches; support to the public sector through capacity development and textbook refinement; develop school models for quality education; advocate in the areas of Early Childhood Development (ECD); foster psychosocial and mental wellbeing through training and research.

Academic Programmes

BIED's team of highly qualified and experienced faculty members, as well as resource persons and researchers, consistently seek to ensure the diversity and richness to the learning environment. The programmes are aimed to enhance the minds of mid-career working professionals from different educational organizations who are keen on further

developing their knowledge regarding education and learning. The students are trained and groomed in such a way that they can apply their knowledge and skills through practice and critical analysis.

The following Masters Programmes are being offered:

Master of Education/ Postgraduate Diploma (MEd/PGd) in Educational Leadership and School Improvement: The Master of Education/ Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership and School Improvement is a one year academic programme that ensures a rich and diverse learning environment for mid-career, working professionals of different educational organisations. Our carefully tailored pedagogy trains students to strengthen their knowledge base and develop their competencies in a variety of areas, including leadership and management, academic and research, advanced skills in communication, etc.

Master Of Science/Postgraduate Diploma (MSc/PGd) in Early Childhood Development: The Master of Science (MSc)/PGd in Early Childhood Development (ECD) is a pioneer programme, the first of its kind in Bangladesh. Intended to attract and create more professionals in the field of Early Childhood Development (ECD), as well as build a greater understanding on ECD itself, the one-year programme is a diverse combination of classroom studies and field research that helps train professionals working in the ECD field as well as teachers. The course outline is carefully designed

to understand ECD on a national and global scale, covering in major issues in the ECD field in an interactive and participatory manner through individual and group learning methods.

Short Courses: BIED is involved in the capacity development of government officials and teachers through its provision of short courses and trainings. An extensive exchange of ideas and opinions with the government revealed the need for positive changes in classroom teaching, learning and management. The courses involve training to teachers, instructors and coordinators and government officials in the education sector.

ECD & Centre for Play

Early Childhood Development & Centre for Play has served as the resource centre and focal point of a national network of ECD providers and stakeholders, operating in partnership with its stakeholders at home and abroad. It provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and advocating on child development, learning through play, early-year brain development and stimulation, parenting through creation of evidence-based models, playing a supportive role in partner activities as well as offering a wide range of capacity development opportunities.

It has a diverse need in the public, private and donor portfolio given that ECD is yet an emerging area in the field of development and wellbeing. ECD & Centre for Play provides services on professional development, research and project and model development, focusing on multi-dimensional areas of ECD, including: Socio-Emotional Learning; ECD tools development/validation; Infant and early year's stimulation; Maternal Mental Health; Play & Creativity; School Readiness and Parenting; Play models that simulate learning through play for children aged 6 months-5 years; Comprehensive Child Development Packages; Day-care model; Pre-school model; Programmes on Positive Thinking.

Centre for Psychosocial Wellbeing

BIED's Centre for Psychosocial Wellbeing (CfPW) is involved in building capacities, conducting researches and providing support to diverse groups on mental health and wellbeing. Starting from adolescents to street children to victims of traumatic events or building capacities of barefoot counselors in schools, communities and private sectors, the centre addresses wellbeing from a multidimensional viewpoint, adopting customized approaches to each scenario and situation. The centre also provides professional development,

counselling services, research opportunities and model development. CfPW works in the following areas: Communication skills; Non-judgmental attitude; Empathy; Confidentiality; Psychological first aid, Mindfulness based stress management; Anger management; Healthy relationships; Situation analysis and goal settings; Socio-emotional changes during adolescence; Self-defense; Drug addiction; Bullying and Parenting.

Design Lab

BIED's Design Lab is an innovative hub that strives to contribute to the education sector through, curriculum and textbook refinement of Primary and Secondary schools, graphics and illustrations of textbooks and ensuring that the design is relevant and learner-friendly, facilitating capacity building initiatives for whole school improvement, and develop innovative school models that help to foster a holistic learning experience.

The Design Lab's robust expertise and resources gives it a strategic advantage to provide support, specifically to the public sector that has the maximum beneficiary outreach. The core focus is to strive for equity and equality for all in education and wellbeing through having a very strong partnership with the government to whom the Lab provides technical support related to textbook refinement and capacity development.

Materials developed so far

- Training modules for Primary and Secondary school teachers as well as supplementary materials
- Refinement of the following national textbooks: Bengali, English, Social Studies, Religious Studies
- Early grade reading training modules for teachers
- Workbooks, classroom materials, etc.
- Primary and secondary learning packages

Refinement of National Textbooks

In October 2016, BIED's Design Lab successfully completed refining textbooks on Religion & Moral Education for Grades 3, 4 and 5, with the final draft sent for feedback to the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB), Bangladesh and the DFID, UK. After multiple feedback sessions from the NCTB, the comments were incorporated into the textbook designing process.

Impact-driven Researches

Besides evaluative researches, BIED undertakes large-scale researches that are quantitative,

qualitative, experimental and quasi-experimental in nature. These research work are disseminated to relevant stakeholders nationally and internationally, to bring forward evidence-based solutions.

Our research areas include: assessment of teachers' roles in classrooms; interface of child labour and education in cities; evaluation of pilot school models; assessing reading and learning proficiencies of primary and secondary school students; community awareness on education and gender parity; inclusive education in rural areas; assessment of urban adolescents in Bangladesh; studies on virtually excluded primary level students in rural communities; effectiveness of play-based learning models; perception study on play and its challenges. The research and empirical work done by the institute is driven by rigorous investigative methodologies to bring forward evidences in the areas of education and wellbeing.

Highlights of 2016

Master of Science in ECD shines through in 11th Convocation Ceremony of BRACU

On 5 December 2016, BRACU organized its 11th Convocation ceremony. Among the graduates of the ceremony were ten graduates from BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED)'s Master of Science (MSc)/Post-Graduate



Diploma (PGD) in Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme.

Ms. Rafiath Rashid, Program Manager, Education, BRAC International and a graduate of the MSc in ECD programme, achieved the prestigious Chancellor's Gold Medal, bringing great honour to the Institute. Fellow graduates Mr. Jasedul Hossain and Ms. Nazia Sharmin, have also shone through the ceremony, each receiving the Vice Chancellor's award.

BIED's MSc/PGD in ECD programme is the first of its kind in Bangladesh, intended to create more advocates of ECD. With a diverse combination of classroom studies and field research, this one-year programme provides professionals as well as

private individuals working on early childhood development to further understand major issues of ECD on a national and global scale.

Workshop for Private School Teachers

On 26 November 2016, BIED conducted a teachers' training workshop for Sir John Wilson School (SJWS). 21 participants took part in the workshop, including the Principal and Vice Principal of SJWS as well as heads of the junior, middle and senior sections. The one-day workshop addressed the importance of classroom management, lesson planning and school curriculum development. The session also provided the participants the opportunity to share their thoughts regarding the addressed themes and possible ways to implement them in the existing school curriculum.

Visit to Tanzania and Uganda

Assessment of Perceptions Regarding Play & Its Challenges

From 16-23 October 2016, BIED's Centre for Play visited Tanzania & Uganda in order to analyse the context for designing an upcoming study undertaken in collaboration with BRAC International, titled, "Exploring the Perceptions of Different Stakeholders Regarding Play and its Challenges in the Context of Bangladesh, Tanzania & Uganda." The research team was involved in observing several plays labs as well as holding interview sessions with the parents, project staff, play leaders and management committee members of the play labs on steps to address play-based learning for children of early-years and the challenges faced in regards to community perception and changing mind-sets.

Material Development Workshop

From 19-20 October 2016 and from 20-21 October 2016, BIED's Centre for Play was involved in organizing a Material Development Workshop in Kampala, Uganda and Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. Participants were involved in designed age-appropriate play materials for the Play Labs implemented in the two countries. The participants comprised of Play Leaders from the different Play Labs, Project Assistants, Coordinators, Branch Managers, Trainers and other personnel involved in early childhood development for the two countries.

Celebrating Universal Children's Day, 2016

On 20 November 2016, on the occasion of Universal Children's Day, BIED went live on Facebook with its newly launched series, titled, 'The Myth-Buster Factory'. The main goal of this series was to break 3 myths regarding play: Toys

are expensive; Play is a waste of time; and Adults can't be playful.

The live-show highlighted how toys can be made by using easily-accessible materials that are found at home and demonstrated how such toy-making activities help improve a child's motor skills, cognitive skills and hand-to-eye coordination. Additionally, by engaging in these interactive activities, the show demonstrates that parents can be playful as well and take a more active interest in their children's early years' development, thus forging a stronger bond between parent and child.

Capacity Building to Promote day Care Services and Increase Women's Employability in the RMG Sector

In 2016, BIED, in collaboration with Phulki, together with

MDF Training & Consultancy BV, University of Amsterdam (UvA) and Nyenrode Business University (NBU), based in the Netherlands, commenced the initiative to promote day care services as well as increase women's employability in the RMG sector. The project proposes to create new positions for women in childcare through skill development, as well as increase the availability of quality childcare services for women in the workplace.

Group Counselling Therapy Session for Rana Plaza Survivors

BIED's Centre for Psychosocial Well-Being has been providing ongoing counselling sessions for victims of the Rana Plaza Tragedy. The sessions include individual screening and also group sessions where topics such as "Anger & Self-care" is discussed. These ongoing sessions seek to provide services and counselling on psychosocial wellbeing for 450 participants, focusing on different psychological components such as anger and stress management, socio-emotional wellbeing, self-care, etc.

Curriculum Development on Workplace Wellbeing Management

BIED's Centre for Psychosocial Wellbeing (CfPW), has developed a 100-hour customised course curriculum on psychosocial support, SRHR (Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights) & the basic rules of ready-made garments (RMG) regulation. The developed curriculum module was then presented in a consultation workshop with Rutgers in,

Utrecht, The Netherlands, in July 2016, with the feedback incorporated in the curriculum. A 12-day session on wellbeing for 30 participants has already been conducted over 3 months titled, 'Workplace Wellbeing Management (WWM)'.

IIEGRA Project

As part of the ongoing IIEGRA (Innovation for Improving Early Grade Reading Activity) project, the Institute has organized the Training of Trainers (ToT), a five-day training session for the trainers who train teachers as a part of the IIEGRA Project. The IIEGRA project aims to conduct a series of Basic Training Programmes for a total of 49 batches. So far, a total of 1225 teachers from 245 schools have confirmed their participation in the training sessions.

Research Unit

Completed Research in 2016 Put in Alphabetical Order

Shimu, Sheikh. Shahana, Kalam, Md. Abul and Hossain, Altaf. (2016) Schooling, SRHR, Gender and Counseling of Post-primary Education (SSCOPE): An Evaluation, Dhaka, Bangladesh: BIED, BRACU.

Shimu, Sheikh. Shahana, Kalam, Md. Abul and Hossain, Altaf. (2016) Results of Baseline Survey of the Innovation for Improving Early Grade Reading Activity (IIEGRA) project, Dhaka, Bangladesh: BIED, BRACU.

Akter, Shaheen (2016) Promoting early learning and development through play: exploring the practice s at the play centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh: BIED, BRACU.

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BRAC Institute of Governance and Development



BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRACU is a centre of policy research and academic excellence.

The premise on which BIGD, BRACU builds its work is that it aims to deliver quality research, academic and training programmes through rigorous, quality controlled process by a pool of dedicated, skilled researchers and to build a system of effective policy engagement informed by the research outcomes, aptly supported by an efficient support mechanism. The four tenets of BIGD's work are: 1. achieve excellence in research 2. provide innovative masters and other courses 3. achieve independent and effective policy engagement and 4. provide active, high operational efficiency to support research, academic, advocacy and policy engagement.

2016 was a good year for BIGD as it has made a solid impression on our most important stakeholders: academics, policy researchers and the government officials. This is no meager achievement especially in such a highly competitive environment, and one in which appreciation does not quite 'flow liberally.'

The year ended on a new high with the launching of its two annual flagship reports, creating a buzz in the media and policy level.

In 2016, training programme of BIGD received a huge boost with BIGD's inclusion in GoB's SEIP project which, depending on performance, BIGD can continue to be part of this project through 2026-27, and the project could potentially open tremendous opportunities for BIGD. Obtaining the training project from Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)

was another feather in BIGD's cap in 2016.

BIGD had many other solid accomplishments in 2016 which include manifestly greater team work, excellence in a large segment of our research, successfully meeting and exceeding IDRC's (one of the major funder of BIGD) programme targets which enabled continuation of funding to BIGD under TTI, winning long term contracts such as



GAGE, ACE, Cities Alliance and SEIP (training). As a result of the IDRC programme targets, BIGD prepared its medium term institutional strategy, HR Plan and a Resource Mobilisation Plan.

BIGD aims to devote 2017 to achieving excellence in all areas of our work, increasing the volume of quality publications and create a buzz in policy level.

As the enclosed list shall attest, BIGD researchers remained productive in their areas throughout 2016. BIGD continued to encourage publication in a variety of genres: newspaper articles/Op-Eds, research reports, working papers and academic journals. It has tried to remain true to its original mandate of combining academic and research excellence with policy engagement through specialized post-graduate courses, cutting-edge research initiatives and policy recommendations.

Academics

BIGD currently offers post-graduate education to government officials, executives from different industries, NGOs, the media, and the civil society.

In 2016, BIGD produced 91 post-graduate students through its Masters programmes and 23 graduates with diploma, advance diploma, professional diploma, certificate courses and trainings.

Master of Arts in Governance and Development (MAGD):

BIGD conducts the internationally acclaimed MAGD programme designed mainly for the government officials. The programme aims at equipping government officials with 'frontier' knowledge, skills, and scientific decision making processes to deal with the complex issues of governance and development, which they have to deal with in their routine work.

In 2016, 19 students from MAGD programme attended the 11th convocation of BRACU held on 5 December 2016.

Master of Development Studies (MDS): BIGD offers MDS, an innovative, cross-disciplinary post graduate master degree that provides an in-depth understanding of development concepts and issues in the context of globalisation, economic transformation and social, cultural and political changes.

The MDS programme currently has 149 students, and 47 students received their MDS degrees in 2016.

Masters in Development Management and Practice (MDMP)

MDMP, a professional master degree in development management and practice was developed by BIGD in 2009 and launched in January 2011. MDMP was conceptualised by Professor Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, renowned development economist and Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, USA. It belongs to a Global Network of Masters in Development Practice Program comprising of 22 universities around the world. In 2016, 5 students have received their MDMP degree.

Masters in Procurement and Supply Management (MPSM) in collaboration with CIPS, UK

BIGD has developed a top-up Master programme on Procurement and Supply Management in collaboration with the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS), which is a UK-based international organization, serving the procurement and supply profession. In total 77 students is currently attending the MPSM programme. 20 participants have completed MPSM in 2016.

CIPS-UK Qualification in Procurement and Supply: CIPS has partnered with BIGD to deliver the CIPS qualification programme at Level- 4 (Diploma in Procurement and Supply), Level-5 (Advanced Diploma in Procurement and Supply) and Level 6 (Professional Diploma in Procurement and Supply) in Bangladesh.

In 2016, 68 participants from public and private sectors enrolled and 15 participants have completed the MCIPS degree, and currently 25 and 14 participants from public and private sectors respectively are attending different levels of CIPS.

Environmental Management and Governance (EMG)

BIGD offers Certificate Programme on EMG with the purpose of sensitizing and enhancing the capacity of participants on key environmental governance issues related to natural resources and environment management. In 2016, 8 students have received the certificates on EMG.

Research

As a leading centre of research and academic excellence, BIGD is devoted to specialised research on a range of governance and development concerns, as well as the nexus between the two intertwined areas. BIGD's

research is aimed at supporting its academic and training programs. BIGD has been publishing the State of Governance in Bangladesh and the State of Cities reports since 2006 and 2012 respectively. It also publishes working papers, policy briefs, policy notes, research reports and books on governance, development and public policy.

BIGD's research mandate is spread over four broad clusters, 1. Governance and Politics, 2. Urban, Climate Change and Environment, 3. Gender Studies, and 4. Economic Growth.

Governance and Politics (GP)

Governance and Politics (GP) cluster is shouldered to craft one of the most important publications of BIGD that is the State of Governance in Bangladesh (SoG) report. The flagship report that essentially inspects a wide range of issues of the country from the perspective of governance has been an uninterrupted effort of BIGD since 2006 making it the ninth publication of the series in 2016. The report serves the institute's major purpose of informing public policy and of contributing to the public discourse on contemporary concerns through rigorous investigation.

Urban, Climate Change and Environment (UCCE) Cluster

The research of UCCE cluster focuses on urban economics, governance, and development as well as climate change and environment related issues in Bangladesh. The cluster carries out BIGD's annual flagship research 'State of Cities (SOC)', which aims to provide a diagnostic report of the country's urban governance. Since 2012, five reports have been published based on urban governance issues of three metropolitan cities: Dhaka, Narayanganj and Chittagong. In 2016, it focused on the Traffic Congestion in Dhaka City. More than one hundred print and electronic media covered the event and arranged talk show for attention to the policy makers. The researchers of UCCE cluster published 10 Op-Eds in national dailies.

Gender Studies (GS)

The Gender Studies cluster currently focuses on research projects like Gender and Adolescent: Global Evidence, Qualitative Research along with School of Public Health, Policy and legal Analysis, Political Settlement and Health in Bangladesh with ESID, Qualitative Baseline Study for the Better works Bangladesh, Contributed working Paper in South Asia Human Development report:

Empowering Women in South Asia, Mixed Method Lead, Choice, Constraints and Gender Dynamics of Labor Market in Bangladesh with London School of Economics (LSE), Gender Norms, Labor Supply and Poverty Reduction in Comparative Contexts: Evidence from Rural India and Bangladesh with Manchester University, Evidence-Based Foundation of Women's Economic Empowerment: Market Analysis with UNDP, Enhancing Gender Equality Results in South Asia Developing member Countries with ADB, Changes in the governance of Garment Global production networks: lead firm, supplier and institutional responses to the Rana Plaza Disaster etc. Besides these research projects Gender Cluster also produced several reports, working papers, a policy brief and a book chapter throughout the year 2016.

Economic Growth (EG)

The Economic Growth (EG) cluster of BIGD works broadly on research projects on growth, poverty, development and economic governance issues relevant to Bangladesh and the region. The cluster primarily aims to conduct academic as well as policy relevant research using rigorous empirical approach and explores economic policy studies having important implications for the governance of the country.

Some of the key highlights of research undertaken by this cluster are the research on 'Cost-benefit analysis on Land Digitization' and 'Cost-benefit analysis of implementing village courts in Bangladesh' for the Copenhagen Consensus Center in the academic year 2016. Other than that, other influential research project conducted also includes the Urban Poverty Project by Power and Participation Research Center (PPRC) titled 'Coping with uncertainties: trust dynamics, fluid networks and the poverty traps of the urban poor'. The cluster also undertook working papers on social accountability and procurement, inequality and growth, medical expenditure and welfare loss and role of electoral competition in explaining political violence in Bangladesh.

In addition to conducting various research papers, the cluster also contributes in the institute's flagship publication series: 'State of Governance' and 'State of Cities' in collaboration with other clusters.

EG cluster is currently collaborating with many national and international organizations including BRAC; Planning Commission of Bangladesh; RAND Corporation USA; University of Sussex, UK;

University College London, UK; Wage Indicators Foundation, Netherlands; Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), India.

New Programmes

Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP)

Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance has undertaken the Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP) with the objective of developing skilled workforce for productive and priority sectors, and for supporting government and private institutions, non-government organizations and industry associations to acquire skilled manpower in the priority sectors. For this purpose, SEIP Project is working with leading universities of the country to establish 'Executive Development Centers' (EDC) to implement a nine month training program for mid and higher level managers. The Executive Development Program shall work to develop mid and higher level managers in four sectors/subsectors namely Garment, Textile, Knitwear, and Leather & Footwear. BIGD, BRACU is engaged in this program, working with the knitwear sector.

Equitable Economic Growth in Cities: Cities Alliance

BIGD has an agreement with Cities Alliance to implement a project entitle "Promoting Equitable Economic Growth in Cities". The project aims to support the promotion of equitable access to public goods and services through focus areas adapted to the city's specific needs and context. BIGD and Cities Alliance selected Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC) and Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) as campaign cities based on some criteria (e.g. population, density, economic growth, existing foreign projects and so on). Each campaign city shall produce outputs including an Institutional Enabling Environment Report (IEER), a Local Assessment Report (LAR), and city-level, evidence based policy briefs and recommendations.

Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE)

The project is supported by the Department for International Development (DFID) in partnership with Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK. It is a nine-year mixed methods longitudinal research and evaluation programme that will generate and share evidence on good-practice programmes and policies to help adolescent girls in the Global South reach their full potential.

Existing Projects

Community of Practice in Performance Management in South Asia

BIGD, in cooperation with the World Bank and the Government of Bangladesh, is implementing a project titled "Community of Practice (CoP) on Performance Management in South Asia" to help strengthen the performance management system of the Governments (GPMS) of South Asia Regional (SAR) countries. To facilitate the implementation of GPMS, necessary support was extended to the Cabinet Division. The project aims to promote peer learning and evaluation amongst practitioners of performance management in South Asian Regional (SAR) countries, as a common practice to further enhance the quality of policy dialogue, and subsequent delivery of public services.

Public Procurement Reform Project (Extension Phase)

BIGD has an agreement with Bangladesh Government (Central Procurement Technical Unit - CPTU) to help design and implement the social accountability mechanism that aims to institutionalize and develop a third party monitoring system in the public procurement process in the country. Based on the lessons learned from the phase II of the project, and in consultation with CPTU and the World Bank, BIGD has reformulated the existing Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC). BIGD supports to ensure effective functioning of the committee so that it can provide policy inputs to strengthen the public procurement systems of the country.

Local Governance Programme SHARIQUE-III

Sharique-III is a SDC funded consortium project on local governance and development. The consortium is comprised of HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation and BIGD. A consortium partner BIGD has project management responsibility. In addition, BIGD has technical responsibility to conduct action and policy research on local governance in Bangladesh and to prepare policy briefs to influence policy. The programme aims to contribute to the empowerment of local citizens to make and implement inclusive, gender sensitive, and pro-poor collective choices about their lives and livelihoods through more democratic, transparent, inclusive, and effective local government systems.

Other Projects

In 2016, BIGD worked with the major fund of Think Tank Initiative Ph-2, along with Sharique-III, Maximising the Quality of Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Programmes Framework (MMQSUN), Relation of the choice constraints the gender dynamics of labor markets in Bangladesh, Gender norms labor supply poverty reduction in cooperative context in Bangladesh, Formal Informal Labour Nexus and Growth, Privatization and Productivity Growth, States Delivering for Poor People Improving Outcomes Through Stronger Evidence, Study on Qualitative Baseline on the Better Work in Bangladesh, Enhancing Gender Equality Result in South Asia Developing Member Countries, Political Economy Analysis on the Barriers to Investment Growth in Bangladesh, Evidence Based Foundation of Woman's Economic Empowerment, Changes in the Governance of Garment Global Production Networks: Lead Firm, Supplier and Institutional Responses to the Rana Plaza Disaster, Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE) etc.

The Centre for Gender and Social Transformation (CGST)

BIGD houses a specialized centre The Centre for Gender and Social Transformation (CGST), established in 2012, that undertakes research and advocacy work on women's empowerment and how positive changes in everyday lives and larger social transformation in gender roles take place. Many of the research projects and advocacy programmes of the Gender Studies cluster are undertaken by this Center.

Policy Engagement and Research Communication

BIGD Communications department, in association with the research clusters, regularly organizes national and regional roundtables, talks, seminars, workshops, meetings and conferences in order to disseminate its research outputs and publications among the relevant stakeholders and target groups within the network for policy influence and engagement.

BIGD Hosts IGC in Bangladesh

The Institute also hosts the International Growth Centre (IGC) of London School of Economics and University of Oxford. This affiliation provides an opportunity for the institute to collaborate on research projects and open itself to a wider research community regionally and internationally.

In 2016, BIGD has co organized number of seminars, workshops and conference with IGC.

Highlights

The Launching of State of Governance in Bangladesh 2016 Report

The State of Governance in Bangladesh (SoG) 2016 titled Regulation Process Performance was launched in December 2016 at the BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka.

The report analysed democratic process, specially electoral politics, public sector governance, economic governance, and health governance, specifically governance of Upazila Health complexes. The report focused mostly on the local government elections in Bangladesh and looked into the role of competition in election, voter turnout, voter list, electoral expenditure and electoral violence. The report also shows the election time violence, increasing of gender gap in voter list and the deteriorations of electoral competition in the recent years.

Launching of the State of Cities (SoC) Report

BIGD launched one of its annual flagship researches SoC 2016 report titled Traffic Congestion in Dhaka City - Governance Perspectives in December 2016.

The report examines transport demand and supply in Dhaka city and how it affects traffic congestion. This study found that institutional and management factors underlay most of the traffic congestion problems, including poor planning of the road network, minimal restraint of private car use, poor organisation of Dhaka's bus system and poor co-ordination of the government agencies involved in transport.

BIGD Research Ranked in Top 20 of Bangladesh Investment Priorities List

Three research studies of BIGD were selected in a prioritized and recommended list of priorities for investment by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) that would produce significant benefits for the country. An eminent panel including a Nobel laureate economist and Bangladeshi economic experts announced the list in the final session of Smarter Solutions for Bangladesh conference on 12 May 2016 organized under a project Bangladesh Priorities: Smarter Solutions for Bangladesh, led by Copenhagen Consensus Centre in cooperation with BRAC's Research and Evaluation Division.

Three BIGD Research studies, E-Procurement across government (Topic-Digital Bangladesh), Land records digitization (Topic-Land administration) and Expand Village Courts (Topic-Governance and institutions) ranked 2nd, 4th and 19th respectively at the Bangladesh priorities list.

BIGD signs MoU with Access to Information (a2i) Programme

BIGD signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Access to Information (a2i) Programme of Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on 21 June 2016 at Prime Ministers Office, Dhaka. Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Executive Director, BIGD, and Mr. Kabir Bin Anwar, Director General (Admin), PMO and Project Director, a2i programme signed the agreement.

Under the MoU, BIGD is conducting impact assessments and evaluations and Cost Benefit Analysis of a2i's various programs and initiatives. BIGD shall also conduct research on ideas to provide service through a2i programme. BIGD and a2i also jointly organized internal workshops quarterly to discuss areas of interest, innovations and new directions.

BIGD & FES Enters into a Collaboration

The contract signing ceremony between BIGD and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) was held on 8 December 2016. BIGD agreed to partner with FES (a German foundation) and develop the curriculum for the Academy of Work (AoW) on the Modules - Field of Management & Organisation and Economics and the course - Gender, Trade Unions and Decent Work. The certificate/diploma programme shall be co-ordinated by BIGD, FES and Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS).

Seminar/Talk/Workshops/Meetings

BIGD organized 11 seminars in 2016 titled Seminar on Climate Change; Seminar on Public Private Partnership; Seminar on Bangladesh Delta Plan-2100; Seminar on Disposal of Audit Objections; Seminar on the Political Economy of Social Protection; National Seminar Strengthening Committees of Upazila Parishads and Standing Committees of Union Parishads; Seminar on election management; Seminar on Readymade Garments Industry: Informing Policy with Evidence based Research; Seminar on Revenue Mobilisation in Union Parishads and Women's Representation in Union Parishads and State of Accountability of the Transferred Departments at the Upazila Parishad; Seminar on Ward Shabha Operational Guideline; Seminar on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (Goal 16 of the SDGs); Seminar on Citizen

Engagement in Public Procurement; National Seminar on Local Governance Programme Sharique; Seminar on Social Entrepreneurship; and Seminar on Gender Norms.

BIGD also organized a Talk by Dr Sabina Alkire on Measuring Multidimensional Poverty in 2016.

BIGD organized 24 trainings and workshops, and 11 high level meetings in 2016 on different issues.

As BIGD moves forward, it intends to consolidate and further build on its work and continue to deliver quality output. A lean but efficient institute shall be the vehicle for BIGD to achieve its goals.

Publications

Book

Rahman, Sultan Hafeez et al. (2016), State of Governance in Bangladesh 2016: Regulations, Process, Performance, Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU

Rahman, Sultan Hafeez et al. (2016), State of Cities 2016: Traffic Congestion in Dhaka City-Governance Perspective, Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU

Ahmed, Tofail (2016), Bangladesh Reform Agenda for Local Governance, Dhaka: Prothoma Prokashan.

Razzaque, F. (2016). Citizen's Charter in Bangladesh, Rhetoric or Reality? A Study of Immigration and Passports Department. Dhaka: Osder Publications.

Book Chapter

Razzaque, F. (2016). Citizen's Charter and Public Service Delivery in Bangladesh. In Ahmed, N. (Ed.) In Public Policy and Governance in Bangladesh: Forty Years of Experiences. New York: Tylor and Francis Books Ltd.

Maheen Sultan and Ferdous Jahan (2016): Opening and resistance: women in the Bangladesh Civil Service in Nizam Ahmed (Edited). Public Policy and Governance in Bangladesh: Forty years of experience. London: Routledge

Journal Articles and Working Papers

Abdallah, W. (2016). Electronic public procurement in Bangladesh, Bangladesh Priorities, Copenhagen Consensus Center, 2016.

Aziz, S.S., & Razzaque, F. (2016). Role of electoral competition in explaining political violence in Bangladesh a district level analysis. BIGD Working Paper Series 34, BIGD, BRACU, November 2016

Hossain, M.S., & Zaman, N. (2016). Cost-benefit study on implementing village courts in Union

Parishads of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Priorities, Copenhagen Consensus Center, 2016.

Huq, L. (2016). Paradox of change in women's capabilities: case of two villages in Bangladesh. BIGD Working Paper Series 31, BIGD, BRACU, August 2016.

Mahmud, S. & Sultan, M. (2016). Community Health Workers as Agents of Change: Negotiating pathways of empowerment. BIGD Working Paper Series 32, BIGD, BRACU, September 2016

Rahman S.H., & Talukder, S.K. (2016). The costs and benefits of digitization of land records via simplified application process, Bangladesh Priorities, Copenhagen Consensus Center, 2016.

Zaman, N., & Hossain, M.D. (2016). Medical Expenditure and Household Welfare in Bangladesh. Working Paper Series 33, BIGD, BRACU, October 2016

Hasan, Mirza M and Prichard, Wilson. (2016). The political economy of domestic tax reform in Bangladesh: Political settlements, informal institutions and the negotiation of reform in the Journal of Development Studies vol 52, issue 12: London. Rutledge.

Rahman, S.H. and Pabon, Nahid Ferdous. (2016). Determinants of Households' Willingness to Pay for Better Municipal Services in Bangladesh, Working Paper. Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Nabila Zaman and Shahadath Hossain. (2016). Impact of Household Catastrophic Health Care Expenditure on Household Welfare: Evidence from Bangladesh, Working Paper. Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Abdallah, Wahid and, Hendrick. (2016). The Economics of system Loss, Working Paper. Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Special Publication Series

Hassan, M.M., & Mannan, S. (2016). Upazila and Union Parishad Governance: A Study on Institutional Relationships and Linkages. BIGD Special Publication Series No. 01, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Hassan, M., Razzaque, F., Hasan, M.B., & Rahman, M.A. (2016). State of Accountability of the Transferred Departments at the Upazila Parishad and its consequences for Allocations and Utilisations of Resources: A Study of Three Departments Local Governance Programme Sharique-III. BIGD Special Publication Series No. 05, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Rahman, S.H.; Hossain, M. S. and Uddin, M.M. (2016). Public Finance and Revenue Mobilization of Union Parishads: A Case of Four Union Parishads. BIGD Special Publication Series No.03, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Sultan, M., Hasan, M.B., Khondaker, S.I., Enam, A.A., Mahmood, T.I., & Nazneen, S. (2016). Women's Representation in the Union Parishad-Local Governance Programme Sharique-III. BIGD Special Publication Series No.04, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Tofail Ahmed, Md. Harun Or Rashid, Kazi Niaz Ahmmad & Farhana Razzaque. (2016). Social Accountability Mechanisms: A Study on the Union Parishads in Bangladesh. BIGD Special Publication Series No.02, March 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Aziz, Syeda Salina and Zillur, Kanetta. (2016). Text Book Quality and Distribution in Bangladesh. Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Hussain, Md Shanawez; Markony, Gazi Arafat Uz Zaman; Ahmed, Raihan. 2016. Citizen Engagement in Public Procurement: Experience from pilot districts. Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Policy Note

Hassan, M., Rahman, M.A., Hoque, M. U., (2016). E-Government Procurement: Towards an Efficient and Transparent Procurement Management at the Local level. Policy Note, August 2016, Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Hassan, M., Aziz, S.S., Shah, N., (2016). Social Accountability In Public Procurement: How Citizen Engagement Can Make A Difference. Policy Note, October 2016, Dhaka: BIGD, BRACU.

Research Brief

Hassan, M., Razzaque, F., Hasan, M.B., & Rahman, M.A. (2016). State of Accountability of the Transferred Departments at the Upazila Parishad and its consequences for Allocations and Utilisations of Resources: A Study of Three Departments. BIGD Research Brief, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Sultan, M., Hasan, M.B., Khondaker, S.I., Enam, A.A., Mahmood, T.I., & Nazneen, S. (2016). Women's Representation in the Union Parishad. BIGD Research Brief, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

Rahman, S.H.; Hossain, M. S. and Uddin, M.M. (2016). Public Finance and Revenue Mobilization of Union Parishads. BIGD Research Brief, July 2016, BIGD, BRACU.

BRAC Institute of Languages



From its humble beginnings as the English Language Programme (EL-Pro) in 2006, BIL has been reinvented twice to finally become the Institute it is today. A product of the aspirations, vision, dedication and innovation of its pioneer and Director, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed and her team, the Institute has attained substantial achievements teaching English language courses to the undergraduate students, academic English to graduate students, TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) to professionals and foreign languages to learners from various backgrounds.

BIL aims to assist students to develop the language skills they need to be successful in graduate school and in their professional lives. The institute focuses on implementing student-centred, creative language teaching techniques by developing modules based on students' proficiency levels. This not only eliminates the possibility of mixed ability classes, but also ensures small classes with excellent interaction between teachers and learners. Additionally, BIL is committed to the field of academic language teaching and research, with clear focus on creative and forward-thinking teaching methodology for diverse learner groups.

MA in TESOL

Since its inception in January 2013, 13 batches of students have enrolled in the MA in TESOL

programme. In 2016, 14 TESOL students successfully defended their thesis to earn their MA in TESOL degree. The students presented their defence to a panel of experts and scholars in the field of TESOL.

New Venture: Kumon

Kumon is a comprehensive learning programme for Math and English which has been founded in 1958 by a high school math teacher in Japan named Toru Kumon. The programme targets students going from preschool all the way up to college level. It is an individualized programme suitable for children of diverse needs and abilities. Today, Kumon has established centres in 49 countries assisting a student base of more than 4.2 million globally aiming to unlock the potential in every child. Kumon has been working with BRAC for the last two years to implement its programme for the underprivileged students through BRAC Schools. BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL) is currently working with Kumon to establish the first Kumon centres in Dhaka to offer its programmes for students from all tiers of the society. Mr. Nehal Bin Hasan, of BIL is working as the Project In-charge for the aforementioned project.

BIL launches German language course

BIL launched the German language course which is a noteworthy addition in the list of language courses that BIL offers. The course launching

seminar for dissemination of information regarding this initiative was held in the BRACU auditorium on 24 November 2016. In her welcome speech at the seminar, Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director, BIL, emphasized on the importance of learning German language in order to pursue higher education and explore career opportunities in Germany. The country offers numerous Master's programmes having English as the medium of instruction and BIL promised to help students in taking IELTS preparation who would enroll in the German language course. The speakers also informed how the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Dhaka would assist students in admission process.

Cultural Programme and Awarding of Certificates to Underprivileged Students

Yet another brainchild of Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, this programme, aiming to go one step further to do something noble for society attained fruition on 17 December 2016, with underprivileged students confidently taking to the stage to speak their mind, all in English. This programme at the BRACU auditorium saw some 60 school going students from around Dhaka aged 10-17 years perform dramas, tell short stories, give speeches and sing songs in English, a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the BUCLC members and BIL faculty. The programme ended with the awarding of certificates to the free English speaking course participants.

Career Council Seminar for Pre-University students

BIL arranged a Career Council Seminar for the Pre-University students of Fall 2016 on 03 November 2016, in the BRACU Auditorium. The event was facilitated by Ms Samiha Nusrat and Ms Anika Tasnim, who are serving in the Office of the Career Services and Alumni Relations (OCSAR). All the Pre-University teachers and students attended the seminar.

The programme began with a brief discussion by the OCSAR officials regarding the services provided by OCSAR to the students as well as the activities of different clubs at BRACU and how the students can be benefitted from club involvement. The speakers further discussed current trends and subject-specific opportunities in the job market after graduation, and also made the students aware of the changing career trends.

Training of BRAC Shishu Niketon Primary School Teachers

BIL has conducted a 12-day training of BRAC Shishu Niketon Primary School Teachers at Uttara BRAC Learning Centre (BLC) in Dhaka from 22 October to 03 November 2016. The purpose of the training was to develop the capacity of BRAC Shishu Niketon Primary School teachers in teaching English Language. BIL faculty members Md. Mahbubul Islam, Md. Abu Sufian and Mohammad Aminul Islam have conducted the training sessions. The participants of the training included 25 female teachers from Dhaka, Manikganj and Mymensingh.

MA in TESOL Student Won National Chess Tournament for the Visually Impaired

On 18 October 2016, Mr. Ejaz Husain, a student of MA in TESOL at BRACU, won the championship held for those who are visually impaired. The event was organized by Bangladesh Chess Federation. Mr. Ejaz won in all of the 7 rounds and achieved full 7 points in becoming the champion.

BIL Lecturer Visited Russia under Government Programme

Md. Shams Ud Duha, Lecturer, BIL, was invited by the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bangladesh to attend a conference titled "Science of the Future" arranged by Russian Government's New Generation Programme. Representatives from 18 countries took part in the programme. The conference was held in Kazan, Russia, from 19-23 September 2016. The conference was organized and funded by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation and Rosstrudnichestvo (Russian Federal Government Agency) respectively.

Press Conference on BIL Lecturer's Russia Visit

On 05 October 2016, Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bangladesh organized a press conference to inform journalists of Md. Shams Ud Duha's recent Russia visit. Mr. Shams, who is a Lecturer at BIL, visited Russia in September under Russian Government's 'New Generation' programme. Mr. Shams shared his experience of the trip with the journalists at the press conference, where Mr. Bazlul Hasan, Head of Education, Russian Center of Science and Culture in Bangladesh, was also present.

Free English Speaking Class for Underprivileged Students

BRACU Communication and Language Club (BUCLC), in association with BIL, has taken the initiative to offer free English Spoken Course to underprivileged children. This course is designed for beginner level language learners by particularly keeping the Bangladeshi children's language context in mind. The inspiration behind such a charitable decision to serve the community came from Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director, BIL. The orientation programme was held on 24 September 2016, which was attended by students along with their guardians. Classes have already begun from 30 September and will end by 17 December 2016.

BIL Lecturer shared his Fulbright experience at EMK Centre

On 31 July 2016, Md. Shams Ud Duha, Lecturer, BIL, shared his Fulbright experience at EMK (Edward Moore Kennedy) Center for Public Service and the Arts, Dhaka. The programme was hosted by the American Center. He talked about his experience as a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) in the US and how this experience helped him enhance his professional skills. Mr. Duha completed his FLTA Programme at Indiana University, USA, which began in August 2015 and ended in May 2016.

Creating Space for Language Practice for Young Learners by MA in TESOL Programme

BIL, as a part of its commitment to the betterment of society and ensuring social justice, has successfully completed a FREE English Language Course entirely run by MA in TESOL students. The participants of the course were children of

employees of BRAC and BRACU, whose monthly salary is not more than Tk 20,000. As a part of Teaching Practicum 01 course (TSL 507) of MA in TESOL Programme, students need to practice classroom teaching at diverse levels to make them competent as language teachers and practitioners.

BIL Lecturer gave lecture on Educative Value of Chess at Mohammedan Sporting Club

Md. Shams Ud Duha, Lecturer, BIL, gave an interactive lecture on 'The Educative Value of Chess' at the first ever chess festival organised by Grandmaster Enamul Hossain and Grandmaster Abdullah Al Rakib at Mohammedan Sporting Club on 29 July 2016. He emphasised on the potential of chess to develop students' cognitive abilities and analytical skills.

Certificate Awarding Ceremony of Corporate Professional Development Training

The certificate awarding ceremony of the 1st batch of Corporate Professional Development Training (CPDT) took place on 03 May 2016. Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director of BIL, Mr. Sahool Afzal, Registrar of BRACU, Ms. Shadia Alam, Senior Manager of HR Department, Ms. Adrita Mulk and Ms. Farah Shawkat, Lecturers at BIL, were present in the occasion to distribute the certificates among the participants.

BIL began an initiative to conduct training programmes for BRACU employees to assist them in improving communication skills in English. In the first batch, twenty-six employees of BRACU participated in this three-month long training program conducted jointly by Ms. Adrita Mulk and Ms. Farah Shawkat.





Inspiring Excellence





Inspiring Excellence

CENTRES

Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)

Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED)

Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Centre

Professional Development Centre (PDC)

Writing Centre

Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research



The Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER) was founded by the Board of Trustees of BRACU to establish the synergy between the world's largest Non-Government Organization (NGO), BRAC, and the top academic institute, BRACU. The Centre has a multidisciplinary pool of professionals from the disciplines of environmental science, geography, disaster management, water resources engineering, and urban and regional planning, as well as economics and business. With a holistic and integrated approach, C3ER explores the issues and possibilities interrelated with climate change and the environment. This multidisciplinary team is guided by Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and Advisor of C3ER, BRACU. Mr. Nandan Mukherjee is the Director, and Ms. Roufa Khanum is the Coordinator of this Centre.

Since its inception, C3ER has been conducting a series of cross-sectoral research projects on climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, climate change education, environmental impact assessment, ecology and sustainable development in direct collaboration with different departments of the University. The Centre has a vision of developing partnerships with other national and international organizations. Resources and expertise offered by the departments, schools, and institutes of the university have been mobilized in the fields

pertinent to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Specific attention is given to conduct research on adverse impacts of climate change on health, food security, poverty and livelihood, displacement and migration; loss and damage assessment; renewable energy; negotiation process; technology transfer; education and raising awareness. Apart from that, the Centre also works with different departments of BRAC, especially with Research and Evaluation Division (RED); Disaster Management and Climate Change (DMCC); and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), in the field of climate change and environmental issues. In addition to this, C3ER arranges a number of training and public lectures on climate change and disaster management in association with other departments of BRACU.

Working Domains of C3ER

Physical Science: C3ER focuses on data collection and analysis, with an emphasis on modelling to predict future changes which includes modelling sea-level rise and storm surge, biophysical modelling, meteorological data analysis, hydrological modelling, and vulnerability and exposure modelling.

Adaptation: C3ER works to help communities understand and deal with environmental hazards, along with possible future changes, using adaptation planning in the health, safety, and

livelihood sectors, and thereby contributing to increase community resilience.

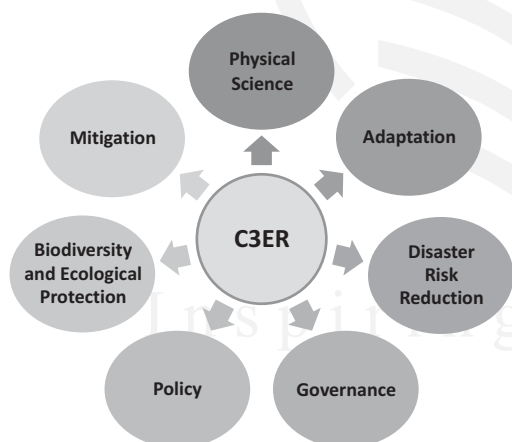
Mitigation: C3ER works to ensure that Bangladesh follows a low carbon growth path and lower gas emissions and increases carbon sequestration.

Disaster Risk Reduction: C3ER works for improving disaster forecasting and early warning systems with local communities in mind. C3ER also works to identify the gaps in current practices and uses of modelling to predict future disaster patterns.

Biodiversity and Ecological Sustainability: C3ER recognizes the importance of the local ecology and works to ensure sustainability through ecological protection and restoration.

Policy: C3ER reviews sectoral policies of the government of Bangladesh and provides necessary suggestions to mainstream climate change and environmental issues in the policies. Also, C3ER looks at the projections of future changes due to climate change and whether the current policies deal with future needs.

Governance: Through policy support and institutional strengthening, C3ER works to increase governmental capacity with regards to climate change and environmental protection.



Highlights of 2016

- Lecturer of C3ER presented her paper titled "Climatic Shocks on Local Market System; Experience of Northern Char Areas of Bangladesh," under the theme "Climate Change and Livelihood" in the 2nd Annual Gobeshona Conference 2016.
- C3ER, BRACU in collaboration with Department of Disaster Management, ActionAid Bangladesh, Climate and Development

Knowledge Network (CDKN) and Nature Conservation Management (NACOM) organized a workshop titled "Unpacking Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage at National Context in Bangladesh."

- Director of C3ER attended a meeting in Imperial College London arranged by Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health regarding a planning meeting on "Pathways to Healthy cities."
- Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and advisor of C3ER BRACU has conferred the Acharya Dinesh Chandra Sen Gold Medal.
- C3ER and BRACU jointly organized the Validation Workshop on the Social cost of migration on children left behind due to labor migration.
- C3ER, BRACU arranged three certificate courses on "Introduction to Climate Change" for the professionals in 2016 and they were attended by several participants, mainly Government officials and practitioners from different sectors of NGOs, BRACU, and other institutions.
- C3ER, BRACU arranged three Knowledge Development Training on "Climate Change" for students from different public and private universities in 2016.
- C3ER was awarded a new project in October which is funded by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh.
- Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus and advisor of C3ER, BRACU participated in the Conference of Parties (COP-22) of United Nations Climate Change Conference in Morocco as a member of the delegation team of Bangladesh from 7-18 November 2016.
- A MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) was signed between C3ER and Oxfam on 07 November 2016 for the project titled "Achieving Resilience through Inclusive Community Based Organizations."
- Ms. Nureen Faiza Anisha, Research Associate, has been conferred the "REX Karmaveer Global Fellowship (RGKF)".

Completed Research Projects

- Social Cost of Migration on Children Left Behind due to Labour Migration

Client: International Organization for Migration (IOM) & Save the Children International
Duration: Dec 2015 - Aug 2016

- Road Safety in Bangladesh
Client: Bangladesh Bank
Duration: Jan - Jul 2016
- Increase and/or Transmission of MALARIA: Role of Climate Change
Client: BRAC
Duration: Feb - May 2016
- Participatory Factory Mapping Research
Client: C&A Foundation
Duration: Jan - Aug 2016

Ongoing Research Projects

- Achieving Resilience through inclusive Community Based Organizations
Client: Oxfam
Duration: Oct 2017 - Mar 2017
- Developing a bankable project proposal on Adaptation Initiative for Climate Vulnerable Offshore Small Island and Charland in Bangladesh
Client: UNDP
Duration: Nov 2016 - Jan 2017
- Third National Communication
Client: Department of Environment, Government of Bangladesh
Duration: Jun 2015 - Dec 2018
- Floating Houses Community-Based Flood Resilience Innovations In Bangladesh
Client: KPMG East Africa Limited
Duration: Jan 2017 - Jun 2018
- Advancing Water security of Marginalized Communities living along Karnali-Ganges river basin in Nepal, India, and Bangladesh

Client: WaterAid Bangladesh
Duration: Jul 2016 - Sep 2017

- Climate Finance Transparency Mechanisms (CFTM)
Client: The British Council
Duration: Jan 2017 - Mar 2018

Publications

- Anisha, N. F., Khanum, R., Khan, M. R., & Khan, A. S. (2016). "Comparative Study of Access to Safe Drinking Water in Two Coastal Districts of Bangladesh, Conference on Water Security and Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities in Asia, Swindon-South East Asia Sustainable Water Management in Developing Countries". *Asian Institute of Technology*. Bangkok, Thailand.
- Anisha, N. F., & Yunus, A. (2016). "Assessment of Relationship of Climatic, Hydrologic and surface Water Quality Parameters in Jamuna River, International Perspective on Water Resources and Environment". *American Society of Civil Engineers*. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Rafie, S. A., Haider, N., Islam, M. N., & Badruzzaman, A. B. (2016). "Assesing the Energy Values of Sewage Sludge from Pagla Sewage Treatment Plant". *BUET-ANWAR ISPAT 1st Bangladesh Civil Engineering SUMMIT*. Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Rahman, M. R.-U., & Nipa, S. N. (2016). "Biodeterioration in the Paharpur Buddhist Bihara: A world Cultural Heritage Site in Bangladesh". *Stamford Journal of Environment and Human Habitat*, 5.

Centre for Entrepreneurship Development



Overview

To make significant contribution in creating an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem in Bangladesh, Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED) of BRACU started its journey in April 2011 under BBS, BRACU with the view to encouraging Bangladeshi entrepreneurs through engendering entrepreneurial knowledge and skill so that the entrepreneurs can systematically develop and grow their own businesses. CED works for engaging potential Bangladeshi entrepreneurs in innovative thinking and provides a platform for new and existing enterprises, be it micro, small, or medium, through skills acquisition activities for the development and management of the enterprise. To understand the enterprise better, CED emphasizes on research that will contribute to entrepreneurial development in Bangladesh, advance education and skill acquisition along this line, and popularize the idea of entrepreneurship.

Vision

To make significant contribution in creating an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem in Bangladesh.

Mission

- ✓ To inspire, devise, nurture, develop, and elevate entrepreneurship through innovation, institutional capacity, and leadership.
- ✓ To unlock the potential of young entrepreneurs in Bangladesh

- ✓ To make visible impact on Bangladeshi entrepreneurs and set them on the path to sustainability

Slogan

Kindling the spirit of Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Goals and Objectives

With the motto of “helping people help themselves”, the goal of CED is to encourage entrepreneurship and engender entrepreneurial knowledge and skills through innovation, capacity development and leadership. The key objectives of CED are as follows:

- ✓ to promote the idea of entrepreneurship in Bangladesh
- ✓ to help build capabilities of the entrepreneurs
- ✓ to address the knowledge gaps and skill shortcomings that prevent entrepreneurs (in various sectors) from growing their businesses and run them effectively
- ✓ to develop academic curricula and introduce courses targeting entrepreneurs and students, who wish to pursue an entrepreneurial path
- ✓ to engage and collaborate with organizations which may include educational institutions for improving the entrepreneurial ventures of local and foreign entrepreneurs

Achievement

CED is experienced in serving the local community through various services like capacity building

programme, promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurial and other research, entrepreneurs' exchange programmes, business incubation centre, fellowship programmes, monitoring and evaluation, implementation of development projects, convening(s), etc. In 2016, CED completed its fourth operational year, and within this short period with various activities, has increased its visibility within the dynamic entrepreneurial community of Bangladesh. Major activities of CED in 2016 include implementation of capacity development programme for AWAJ Foundation (an RMG workers' right-based organization) and completion of the planning phase of "Participatory Factory Mapping Research" (PFMR) [a pilot RMG factory mapping project], both funded by C&A Foundation. Along with this, CED developed 10 training modules as a part of its professional capacity development and executive education programmes.

CED was involved in organizing "BRACU/NYU Reynolds/D-Prize Global Social Venture Competition" and also organized the South Asia Launching Ceremony of "Connect to Grow", the enterprise matchmaking initiative supported by the UK government. Throughout the year, CED has been organizing various entrepreneurship exchange and fellowship programmes, and Business Plan Competition(s), boot camps, innovation workshops, business plan development workshops, etc. for the aspiring entrepreneurs from BRACU under "CED Entrepreneurs' Den" programme. Along with this, a regular programme titled "Entrepreneur Speaks" was also organized to widen the base of entrepreneurship of BRACU students/alumni through sharing experiences by renowned young entrepreneurs of Bangladesh.

CED has already established an academia-based Business Incubation Centre (BIC) through a Sub-Project under HEQEP; Business Plan Competitions and enrollment of incubatees to the BIC have been organizing as a part of the initiative. The sub-project has been extended up to March 2017. So far, eight (8) incubatee groups have been enrolled to the BIC and are receiving incubation support and services. In addition to these, CED has also launched its official website (<http://ced.bracu.ac.bd>) under the main domain of BRACU website.

Ongoing Initiative

CED is currently working on the proposal development phase of the RMG factory mapping project titled "Digital RMG Factory Mapping in Bangladesh" (DRFM-B). CED has given concentration on conducting a number of in-house research studies on entrepreneurship, agriculture and development, among other regular activities.

CED is organizing various capacity development and executive education programmes in collaboration with BBS and SAPIEN. In 2017, CED has plan to launch four (4) executive education programmes for the capacity development of professionals.

Faculty Overview

At the organizational level within BRACU framework, CED is currently headed by an Adviser, and run by a Programme Manager with two (5) full-time and one (1) part-time staff. BBS faculty members, academic and administration personnel from other departments, and other resources from BRACU are committed on a project-by-project basis as and when required.

Activities (January-December 2016)

Training/Workshop under the capacity building project titled "Enhancing Organizational Capacity of AWAJ Foundation through Developing Effective Managerial Skills" funded by the C&A Foundation

1. Generic ToT (Training of Trainers) for the Field-level Personnel of AWAJ Foundation (9-14 January 2016 at NGO Forum for Public Health Training Centre, Lalmatia, Dhaka)
2. Training on Communication, Leadership and Decision Making for Top-Level Officials of AWAJ Foundation (1-4 February 2016 at GDLN Centre, BRACU)
3. Training on Project Cost Management: Estimating, Budgeting, Cost Controlling for Top-Level Officials of AWAJ Foundation (14-16 February 2016 at GDLN Centre, BRACU)
4. Training on Communication, Leadership and Decision Making for Field-Level Employees of AWAJ (22-25 February 2016 at NGO Forum for Public Health at Lalmatia, Dhaka)
5. Workshop on Strategic Planning (16 May 2016 at BBS Conference Room in BRACU)

Two Project Information Dissemination Workshops with National and International Organizations, and Workers' Association and Federations

As a part of the research project titled "Participatory Factory Mapping Research: Planning Phase" conducted by CED, BRACU, two (2) workshop titled "Project Information Dissemination Workshop" were organized on 18 February 2016 and 27 February 2016 at GDLN Centre of BRACU with the participants from national and international organizations, and workers' associations and federations. The workshop exhibited the interactive, web-based, multi-layered mapping application on RMG industry of Bangladesh developed by CED, BRACU.

BRACU Team “Project: Enlightened Human” Wins BRACU/NYU Reynolds/D-Prize Social Venture Competition

CED, BRACU is proud to be a part of BRACU/New York University Reynolds Programme in Social Entrepreneurship (NYU Reynolds)/D-Prize Global Social Venture Competition Consortium. Cutting-edge universities around the world have joined together to conduct their own intra-school competitions and support their students' efforts to scale sustainable, proven poverty solutions in the developing world. BRACU team titled “Project: Enlightened Human”; mentored by CED, won the BRACU/NYU Reynolds/D-Prize Social Venture Competition 2015-16. The team was awarded with a funding of USD 10,000 borne jointly by BRACU and D-Prize. The programme was organized during the second quarter of 2016.

CED Organized the South Asia Launch of “Connect to Grow”

CED organized the South Asia Launching Ceremony of “Connect to Grow”, the enterprise matchmaking initiative supported by the UK government, on 9 March 2016 at BRAC Centre in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 2pm to 6pm. The Bangladesh event commences the search for enterprises in the region who are ready to partner with innovative companies, to grow their business- and have a positive impact on the lives of the poor.

CED Entrepreneurs' Den Programmes

1. Final Presentation of Business Plan Competition (Round-2) [7 April 2016, at BBS Conference Room]
2. Innovation Workshop on “Business Plan Development” (29 September 2016 at BIC)
3. 2 workshops titled “Innovation Workshop” on 28 July 2016 and 30 July 2016
4. Boot Camp for the Aspiring Entrepreneurs under “CED Entrepreneurs' Den” (1-3 September 2016)
5. Business Plan Development Workshop on Financial Management (20 October 2016 at BIC)
6. Business Plan Competition (BPC) Round 3 (26 November 2016 at BBS Conference Room)

Professional Fellows Exchange Programme

The “Professional Fellows Exchange” is a US Department of State supported exchange programme being managed by the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Oklahoma, USA, partnering with CED, BRACU. In 2016, under this high-profile exchange programme, a total of 7 young Bangladeshi professionals from diverse business backgrounds visited USA for 5 weeks.

Training on “Generate Your Business Idea” with ILO

CED and International Labour Organization (ILO) jointly organized a 3-day training titled “Generate Your Business Idea” (GYB) as a part of the “Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) Programme” under the “Bangladesh Skills for Employment and Productivity” (B-SEP) project being implemented by the Government of Bangladesh and ILO. The training was organized during 19-21 May 2016 at CED premises in BRACU with the aim to provide the aspiring Bangladeshi youths and/or potential entrepreneurs with necessary skills to generate their business ideas efficiently and structure bankable business plans successfully.

Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme for Midwives

BRACU's James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) and CED jointly organized a 3-day training on “Entrepreneurship Development” for the midwifery graduates of the “Developing Midwives Project” at BRAC Learning Centre (BLC), Uttara, Dhaka. The project is funded by DFID and implemented by JPGSPH, BRACU. Under this initiative, the training was conducted in 4 batches consisting of 88 participants. The training for the first two batches were organized during 20-22 September 2016; while for the second two batches, the schedule was during 25-27 September 2016.

“Entrepreneur Speaks” Programme Organized by CED/BIC

CED and BIC of BRACU jointly organized an entrepreneurial development and motivational programme titled “Entrepreneur Speaks” on 14 November 2016, Monday from 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM at BRACU Auditorium. The Guest Speakers of the programme were: Mr. Prito Reza (Photographer, Director, TV Host, Founder of Wedding Diary), Ms. Tania Wahab (Managing Director, KARIGAR), and Mr. Biplob G. Rahul (Founder & CEO, eCourier.com.bd). Over 120 BRACU students attended the event.

Mid-Term Evaluation of DALA Project and Final Evaluation of Stop Child Marriage (SCM) Project Funded by Plan International Bangladesh

CED has keen interest in developing its expertise in the field of research. CED completed a research study related to the mid-term evaluation of an adolescent programme titled “Developing Aspiration and Livelihood for Adolescents” (DALA). CED also worked on a research study e.g. the final evaluation of an adolescent programme titled “Stop Child Marriage” (SCM) project. Both the evaluation has been funded by Plan International Bangladesh.

Professional Development Centre



Background

The Professional Development Centre (PDC) is an innovation of BRAC University (BRACU) dedicated to promoting excellence in education through shared understanding and best practices. The PDC strives to build a creative environment of pedagogical development and research that fosters innovation across the university. The Centre keeps the campus community updated with pedagogical developments, coordinates academic resources, supports professional development and contributes to student success. From group events to personalized attention, PDC supports measurable effectiveness in faculty development, course instructions and assessment, scholarly research, and innovation in education technologies.

Vision

The PDC of BRACU will be a dynamic platform promoting its goals in higher educational institutions of Bangladesh, South Asia, and beyond. Whereas university academics will be the primary beneficiaries of the centre, the greater community of stakeholders will include students, management staff and anyone interested in education industries.

Mission

The core mission of the centre is to assist BRACU and other local higher educational institutions in evaluating and embracing effective modes of teaching practices that deliver excellent educational experience to students. The issues related to diversity, learner autonomy and voice along with the transferability of learning to workplaces, people and society are also priorities of the centre.

Introducing PDC

In February 2016, the Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) was renamed as the PDC.

Faculty Programmes

Certificate in Higher Education Teaching (CHET) Programme

On 5 May 2016, BRACU PDC began a certificate programme in higher education teaching (CHET) with faculty members. The key objective of this programme is to sensitise and enhance the capacity of BRACU faculty members on several key concepts and good practices of global and local educational processes. The second batch of CHET started from Fall 2016 with 31 faculty members.

Faculty orientation programme

PDC hosted the 19th Faculty Orientation Programme on the 27 and 28 April 2016. A total of 13 new faculty members attended this session.

PDC also organized a half-day follow-up workshop of the 18th Faculty Orientation Programme on 18 February 2016. A total of 19 new faculty members attended this follow up session.

Faculty conversations regarding reviewing course outlines

PDC received and reviewed learning outcomes of all the course outlines from eleven departments and shared the findings in 'faculty conversations' to assist them in reviewing their own course outlines.

Workshops on 'Learning Outcomes, Lesson Planning and Reflections'

PDC has been working in support of Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to organize and facilitate workshops on pedagogy for BRACU faculty members. There were 6 workshops in March 2016 and 3 in April 2016 on 'Learning Outcomes, Lesson Planning and Critical Reflections'. A total of 159 faculty members have participated in this programme. PDC also facilitated 10 refresher sessions on the same topic and a total of 83 participants attended these sessions.

Technology Enhanced Teaching and Learning Unit

In 2016, PDC accumulated all of its learning from seminars and workshops, and accommodated those into: (i) a web application and (ii) CHET-Module. The web application is the e-portfolio system which has the capacity to allocate personal websites to individuals for generating electronic portfolios. The e-portfolio system is also packed with a learning management system, student/faculty feedback system and dynamic scheduling mechanisms. CHET is a 12-module course and one of the modules is on the technology usage in classroom. The modules cover a wide range of technology based tools and applications, starting from Google apps, podcasts and ranging up to home grown tools, such as a learning management system and e-portfolio.

Continuous Professional Development of PDC Staff**Publications**

PDC faculty members published several papers on Education in official conference proceedings and journals.

Conferences

PDC faculty members presented their research papers on 'Education' in national and international level conferences this year.

Presentations

Hamim Al Ahsan gave a demonstrative presentation on 'New Directions in Literary Research' at BRACU on 19 and 20 May 2016. He also announced the launching the first ever digital humanities platform for BRACU on 29 September 2016.

Workshops and Seminars**Strengthening Teaching and Learning Capacity in the Higher Education Sector of Bangladesh**

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) and the British Council jointly organized a two day long workshop on 'Strengthening Teaching and Learning Capacity in the Higher Education Sector of Bangladesh' under the 'Centre of Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)' programme on 25 and 26 May 2016. Dr. Golam Jamil and Muhammad Foysal Mubarak attended the programme on behalf of BRACU.

Reaching Education 2030: 7th Five Year Plan and Beyond

Sabrina Syed and Muhammad Foysal Mubarak attended a seminar titled "Reaching Education 2030: 7 Five Year Plan and Beyond" on 28 December 2016. The main objective of this seminar was to raise our voice to achieve the 'Education 2030 Agenda' of Bangladesh.

Trainer validation workshop in Sri Lanka

Sabrina Syed was selected and sponsored by the British Council Bangladesh for the 'Trainer Validation Workshop' held in Sri Lanka from 8-11 August 2016 and validated by the British Council at the end of the workshop.

Service to the Community

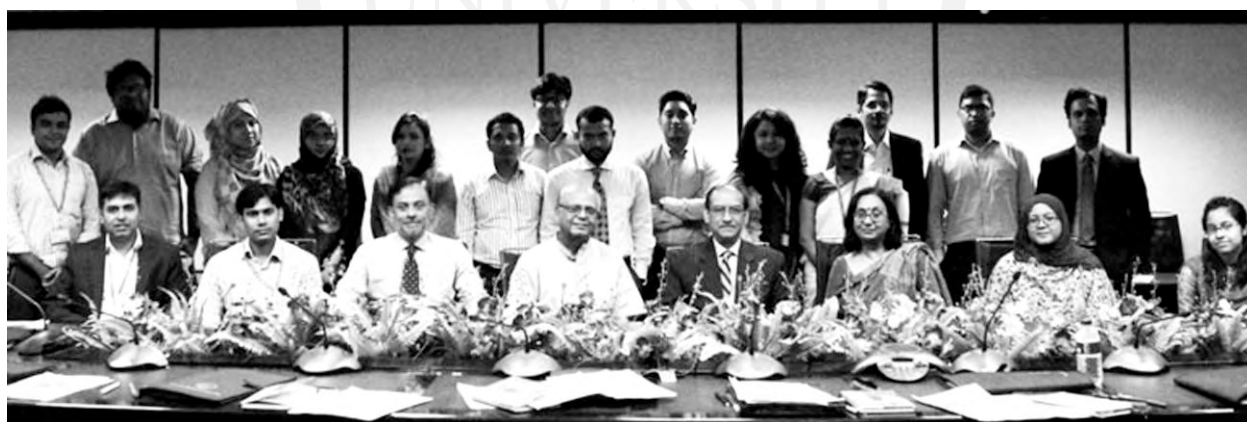
On 9 April 2016, as part of community services, PDC organized a teacher development

workshop at BRACU. There were 21 participants from five schools and one development organization.

Dr Mohammad Golam Jamil facilitated a six-session course on Writing for Effective Communication for the DSCSC 2016-17 batch on 5 and 6 April 2016 at Defence Services Command and Staff College, Mirpur Cantonment, Dhaka. A total of 211

Bangladeshi officers and 73 overseas officers from 25 countries attended the sessions.

BRACU and British Council organized a two-day workshop on 'Developing the quality of teaching in Bangladesh Higher Education' under the 'Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)' programme on 5 and 6 December 2016 at BRACU and British Council respectively.



Global Development Learning Network Centre



BRACU is the one and only affiliate of Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) in the country since 2006, boasting a well equipped centre with facilities for seating around 60 participants with modern sound proofed audio and video conferencing facilities.

This centre is controlled by the BRACU IT Department and is frequently rented out to both internal departments and external organizations for various seminars, meetings, etc. GDLN is a partnership of over 120 learning centres in nearly 80 countries around the world. Their members communicate, share knowledge and learn from each others' experiences in a timely and cost effective manner.

Work with GDLN

The GDLN affiliates offer direct access to local, regional and international development experts; provide tailored learning programmes, knowledge or technical assistance programmes, and state-of-the-art facilities for multi-point videoconferencing and internet-based learning.

Coordinated by the World Bank, GDLN has a partnership of over 120 recognized global institutions (Affiliates) in some 80 countries. The Affiliates are as diverse as the Korean Development Institute, the Kenya School of Government - eLearning and Development Institute, the Energy and Resource Institute in India or the Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico.

Collectively, affiliates put on 1000+ learning sessions a year that range from training courses and informal brainstorming sessions to multi-country dialogues and virtual conferences. GDLN learning specialists in these organizations collaborate in designing customized learning solutions for clients. With increasing links to in-country networks, GDLN's reach now extends to more than 500 access points around the world.

Sessions are designed for specific learning objectives and audiences and also draw on applied knowledge and expertise from across the network. They usually feature a combination of learning techniques, such as expert panels, case based learning and action plans, as well as information and communication tools, used in face-to-face, videoconferencing and e-learning events.

What GDLN Offers

GDLN is present in most major cities and in many secondary cities. We offer direct access to local, regional and international development experts, provide tailored learning programmes, knowledge or technical assistance programmes, and state of the art facilities for multi-point video conferencing and internet-based learning.

Services of GDLN fall into four broad categories: programme, session design, session management and session coordination.

Writing Centre



Overview

The BRAC University Writing Centre (WC) is a complementary academic service unit that supports students, staff, and faculty to hone their writing skills. The Centre fosters excellence in written communication throughout the university; a place where focused individualized teaching is delivered at all stages of the composition process. The writing consultants at the Centre work closely and dedicatedly with the clients at every stage of the writing process. The Centre offers appointments and drop-ins, workshops, learning resources, and provides space for one-to-one and group support for all disciplines. Another major function of the WC is to conduct and host workshops on academic writing skills. As an additional service, the Centre provides convenient access to resources and reference materials about academic writing, online at their website [wc.bracu.ac.bd], for use by students and faculty.

The most significant alteration at the WC in 2016 has been the appointment of a group of undergraduate students as part of the centre's staff. Designated as Peer Tutors (PT), the principal function of the PT was to work with the 1st year students to help them overcome their language barriers. The new team, consisting of the faculty members and the PT, has, for the past year, continued to add value to the process and structure initiated in 2015 and as a result the centre has thrived. In the 3 terms of 2016, a total of 594 appointments and 38 workshops were facilitated at the WC.

Appointments

Attendees	Fall 16	Summer 16	Spring 16
Combined Total	335	95	164
Student Appointments	331	94	160
Faculty Appointments	4	1	4

Student response in 2016 has varied much through the year. There was an upsurge in the student number in Spring that receded in Summer but gained a significant momentum in Fall. The appointments through the year addressed a variety of topics ranging from understanding and maintaining academic integrity to components and structure of academic writings. Also discussed much frequently in the sessions were the essentials of academic writing such as sentence variations, diversity in the use of vocabulary and avoiding fragment and run-ons in sentences. Each session, customized to cater to the individual needs of the students, was uniquely facilitated by identifying and determining an achievable goal. It should be noted that despite the uniqueness of each session, the data collected and preserved for every appointment serves as a framework for developing study materials and workshop contents for the following terms. Additionally, research on best teaching and tutoring practices are done every term to ensure more effective learning of the students who seek the services of WC.

Faculty response to the individual appointment service was less popular in 2016. The few sessions

availed by the faculty members mostly discussed the style and structure of writing statement of purpose for higher education. This issue will be given considerable attention in 2017.

Workshops

A variety of topics were discussed in the 38 workshops offered throughout 2016 conducted by both the WC consultants and resource persons from BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL). The workshops for the faculty members were:

- Effective teaching of Writing through Interaction & Collaboration
- Adapting Challenges in Educational Projects
- Three Myths about Teaching
- Effective Feedback in Written English
- Plagiarism and how to avoid it using APA
- Planning your research
- Writing your Proposal
- Writing Abstracts
- Writing Literature Review
- Writing Statement of Purpose
- Using Zotero to Manage References for Research

The student workshops in 2016 focused on developing both the essential writing skills as well as the research writing skills of the students. While some of these workshops were designed to address all the students, others were customized to cater the particular needs of a group of students. The workshops offered through the year covered topics such as:

- Deconstructing Assignments
- Dealing with Difficult Words
- Read to Learn to Write
- Creative Writing and Extensive Reading
- Starting your Thesis
- Literature Review
- Avoiding Plagiarism
- Introduction to APA
- Synthesizing Information
- Research Proposal
- Reading Journal Articles
- Word Order
- Sentence Variations

Peer Tutors

In 2016, 8 BRACU students became a part of the WC as Peer Tutors to offer consultations to the

students seeking the service of WC. At the outset, the tutors were oriented into the pedagogical practices of the Centre through a daylong training. They continued to learn more about the tutoring strategies through observing the sessions conducted by the centre's consultants and from the reflective sharing of each other's sessions. They also received constant guidance and support from the WC consultants in conducting the sessions. They showed much interest in the activities assigned to them.

Development Training

The WC coordinator Ms. Mehetaz Chowdhury participated in a 5-day long workshop titled "Basic Course on Scientific Writing for Mid-Level Researcher and Development Practitioners" organized by James P. Grant School of Public Health. The principal focus of the session was to acquaint the participants with a commonly used scientific writing structure called IMRAD (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion). In addition to an elaborate discussion on the components of the structure, the facilitators of the session shared knowledge of language tools and techniques that are appropriate and acceptable for scientific writing. The training proved useful for designing materials for workshops for the students and faculty members of BRACU to be offered in 2017.

BRACU Listening Lab

The Listening Lab provides a platform for the students of BRACU to develop their language proficiency. The resources at the Lab offer extensive opportunity for developing reading and listening skills outside the classroom. In addition to books and listening tracks in English, the Lab also houses materials in Bangla, Chinese and French. In recent times, the Lab has adopted an integrated approach to foster language skills in the form of individual and guided listening practice sessions. In line with that, the Lab initiated weekly sessions for the students that focus on teaching and practicing different listening skills.

The Listening Lab operates from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for 5 days a week. The core operational staff of the lab consists of Ms. Sanzida Pias, who works with different groups of BIL faculty members each semester. Their roles at the Lab include monitoring the proper utilization of the lab resources by the students, providing individual consultation to the students and conducting weekly listening sessions. In 2016, a total of 7377 students have availed the services of the Listening Lab.

From Summer 2016, the Listening Lab has been linked to the undergraduate English courses offered by BIL. Under the agreement, it was decided that the struggling students from these courses would particularly be recommended to the Lab for individual consultations. The progress was closely monitored by the lab consultants and a record was maintained in the form of a portfolio for each student. These portfolios kept notes on the respective student's activities and performance, along with progress feedback by the consultant. The reports were compiled and sent to the respective teachers at the end of each semester. The response to this collaboration was reported to be remarkable.

The weekly listening sessions were initiated in Fall 2016 with the objective of familiarizing the students with different active listening tools and techniques. The topics covered this term were "Importance of Listening Skills", "Communication Barrier", "Note-taking Tips", "Whispering Games", "List-less Word Games" and "Group Story-telling".

To motivate and encourage students to visit the lab more often, a prize-giving ceremony was organized on November 30, 2016 to acknowledge the highest

attendee and the best performer at the lab sessions. The selected students were awarded with gift coupons.

In addition to organizing its own activities, the Listening Lab also hosts a wide array of programs. The sessions hosted at the lab throughout 2016 are:

- English Speaking Activity, organized by the BRACU Communication and Language Club
- Extended English Speaking Activity for the Pre-University students
- Reading Circle, coordinated by BIL faculty member Abu Bakar Siddique
- Journal Club, organized by BIL
- Observational Tool for Professional Development workshop for BIL faculty members
- Motivational workshop for ENG 091 students
- Pre-University reading sessions
- Documentary Screening session celebrating the 80th birthday of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed
- Workshop on "Read, Listen, Learn"





Inspiring Excellence

RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Ayesha Abed Library
BRACU Administration
Counseling Unit
Finance and Accounts Department
Human Resources Department (HRD)
Information Technology Department (IT)
Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)
Medical Centre
Office of Career Services and Alumni Relations (OCSAR),
Office of Co-curricular Activities (OCA) and
Office of Student Affairs
Office of Communications (OoC)
Office of the Registrar
Procurement Department
Relationship Management Office (RMO)
Residential Semester (RS)

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

COMMITTEES

Finance Committee
Faculty Selection Committee
Disciplinary Committee

AUDITOR'S REPORT

LIST OF ACRONYMS

Ayesha Abed Library



The Ayesha Abed Library at BRACU aims to become a world-class knowledge resource centre and provide innovative services and collections to support academic and research activities of the university community.

In 2016, Ayesha Abed Library continued to strengthen and expand its collections and its services by purchasing and subscribing to print and electronic resources and to develop and maintain the required technical infrastructure for accessing these resources. A very significant achievement of this year was to archive 336 old and rare documents of BRAC from 1972 to 2004 into Institutional Repository (dspace.bracu.ac.bd) of BRACU. The project involved scanning documents in-house and metadata entry. The content in the Institutional Repository will continue to grow as the library digitizes more material. The other major accomplishment of the year was to automate Savar Campus Library using Integrated Library System Koha.

Training/Workshop conducted in 2016

- BRACU Ayesha Abed Library conducted two Research Skill workshops for faculty in association with IQAC, BRACU. The workshop was held on 24 September and 2 June 2016 in the Library Learning Resource Centre. A total of 77 faculty from different departments participated in the workshop. The main purpose of the workshop was to help students develop

digital and information literacy skills. The workshops covered the following topics:

- Learn your Library and Introduction to Research
- Institutional Repository@ BRACU: increasing the visibility and impact
- Plagiarism and Reference Management using Mendeley
- Turnitin-Anti Plagiarism Web Tool
- The library conducted 47 information literacy classes for 1257 students and faculty. The main purpose of the sessions was to acquaint students and faculty with the information sources, resources and techniques to retrieve resources as per their needs.
- Ms. Hasina Afroz, University Librarian, BRACU conducted a session on Management of UDL e-Resource in a day-long workshop on "Central Library Capacity Building" organized by Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) at UGC auditorium on 1 December 2016. Librarians from 80 public and private universities of the country participated in the workshop.
- Ms. Hasina Afroz, University Librarian acts as Member of the UGC Digital Library Consortium's Expert Committee, Coordinating Committee and Negotiation Committee.

Staff Training, Development and Conference Participation

Training is a crucial element of excellent staff performance. Library staff participated in the following workshops, seminars, and conferences during the year:

- Ms. Hasina Afroz, University Librarian, BRACU attended the MeetBdREN 2016 Conference from 18-19 April 2016 at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, University of Dhaka. She presented a paper on "*Institutional Repository@ BRACU: increasing the visibility and impact*" and co-chaired the digital library session.
- Mr. Md. Shahajada Masud Anowarul Haque, Senior Assistant Librarian, attended a webinar on "*Research4Life: The library that opens doors*" organized by Agriculture Information Management Standards (AIMS) and Research4Life on 17 March 2016.
- Mr. Md. Shahajada Masud Anowarul Haque, Senior Assistant Librarian attended the international training programme on "Advanced Certificate Course on Modern Library Practices" from 28 September to 22 November 2016 at the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chennai, India. This training programme was sponsored by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). He also participated in a quiz event as part of the Inter LIS School Competition on the occasion of National Library Week celebrations organized by the Department of Library & Information Science, University of Madras on 18 November 2016. There were 20 participants from different Universities of Chennai LIS schools and Mr. Haque won the third place in that quiz competition.
- Ms. Safinoor Sagorika, Assistant Librarian, participated and presented a paper titled "*Web-based resource management system for promoting teaching and learning: Bangladesh perspectives*" in the International Conference on Teaching and Learning (ICTL 2016) from 22-23 April 2016, organized by the Centre for Pedagogy, Independent University Bangladesh,

Dhaka, Bangladesh in collaboration with HEQEP, UGC.

- Ms. Asma Khatun, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Mr. Saiful Islam, Assistant Librarian, participated in a day-long seminar on "*Information Service of BANSDOC to enhance Science and technology Research in Digital Bangladesh*" organized by Bangladesh National Scientific Technical and Documentation Centre on 28 August 2016.

Users' Satisfaction Survey

In 2016, BRACU Ayesha Abed Library conducted a users' satisfaction survey inviting responses from students and faculty. The purpose of the survey was to measure current use and levels of satisfaction with the library and to identify priorities for the future. A total of 250 respondents completed the survey. The survey explored the views of respondents about frequency of use of library resources and satisfaction levels with library services, overall views on library services and recommendations for improvement to the library services and resources. Some findings are given below:

- 61.6% (154) of respondents said they visit the library in-person at least 1-5 hours during a normal week.
- 58% (145) of respondents spend at least 1-5 hours of using online resources from BRACU library's web page.
- 16.8% (42) of respondents never used the library in-person and 23.6% (59) of respondents said they never used library's online resources.
- The most common activity on visiting the library was individual study and borrow or return books (52.8%, 132), followed by group study (36.4%, 91) and research (13.2%, 33).

The users were asked to rate how the library generally meets their needs in terms of books, journals, electronic databases, library catalogue, computers, photocopiers, printing, helpfulness of staff, training sessions, study facilities, study environment and opening and closing times. Respondents were provided with a 5-point scale (5 = Very Satisfied, 4 = Satisfied, 3 = Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied, 1 = Very Dissatisfied).

Table 1: Satisfaction with the Library Resources

Collections	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Responses/ Total N	Mean	Median	Std. Deviation
The Print book collection	15.1%	58.8%	15.1%	9.8%	1.2%	245	3.77	4.00	.868
On-line journals, databases, e-books	22.1%	51.3%	20.4%	4.6%	1.7%	240	3.88	4.00	.864
Institutional Repository (Theses, dissertation, internship report)	20.5%	50.4%	26.1%	3.0%	0%	234	3.88	4.00	.758

Note: “Not answered” responses are not included in the above calculation.

Respondents were also invited to suggest three things that they think would improve the library experience at BRACU. A total of 186 respondents made suggestions, highlighting a number of key issues for library users, including improvements to the library's space, study environment, increasing

borrowing privileges, a better range and more copies of core books, etc.

Users were asked to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with different statements related to the library.

Table 2: Satisfaction with Library Staff

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Responses	Mean	Median	Std. Deviation
<i>The library staff is knowledgeable</i>	21.2%	48.4%	24.4%	2.0%	.4%	250	3.77	4.00	1.049
<i>The library staff provides clear and accurate responses</i>	26.0%	44.4%	20.8%	2.4%	2.4%	250	3.77	4.00	1.172
<i>The staff is helpful</i>	30.4%	43.6%	17.2%	3.6%	1.6%	250	3.87	4.00	1.152
<i>The staff is always available to assist</i>	28.8%	43.6%	16.0%	7.2%	4%	250	3.81	4.00	1.176
<i>The staff provide response in a timely manner</i>	30.4%	38.4%	20.4%	6.0%	1.2%	250	3.81	4.00	1.158
<i>The library has competent staff</i>	30.4%	35.6%	21.6%	4.8%	3.6%	250	3.72	4.00	1.267

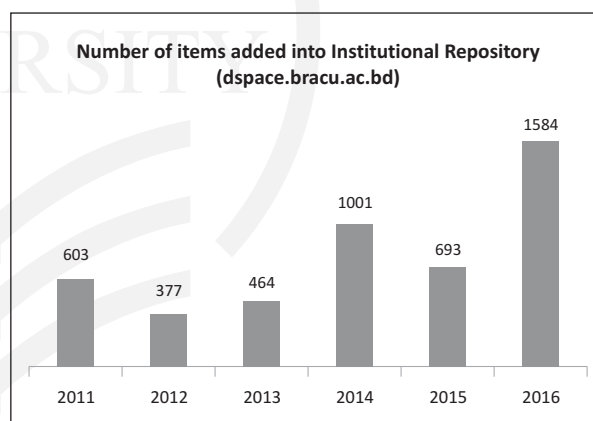
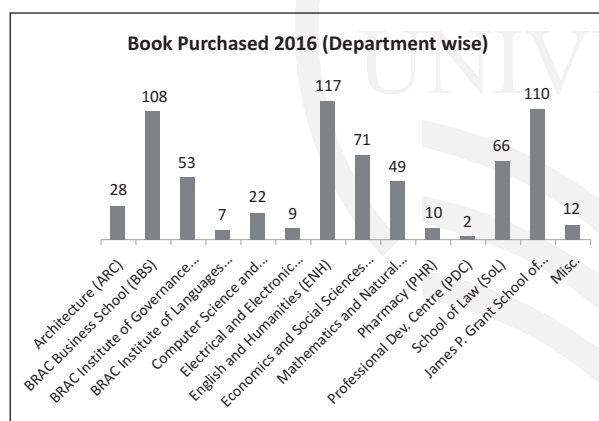
Note: “Not answered” responses are not included in the above calculations

Table 3: Overall Satisfaction with the Library

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Responses	Mean	Median	Std. Deviation
Overall the library provides me with a good service	20.8%	49.6%	21.2%	4.8%	1.2%	250	3.77	4.00	1.027
The library provides a good range of printed books	20.8%	39.2%	23.6%	7.2%	6.0%	250	3.52	4.00	1.249
The library provides a good range of online resources	22.0%	41.6%	24.8%	4.8%	2.4%	250	3.63	4.00	1.203
Information on the library website is easy to find	26.4%	37.6%	24.8%	4.4%	2.0%	250	3.68	4.00	1.240

Note: “Not answered” responses are not included in the above calculations.

Statistical Summary

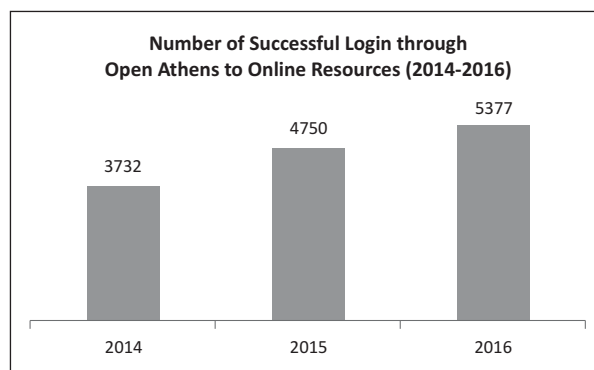
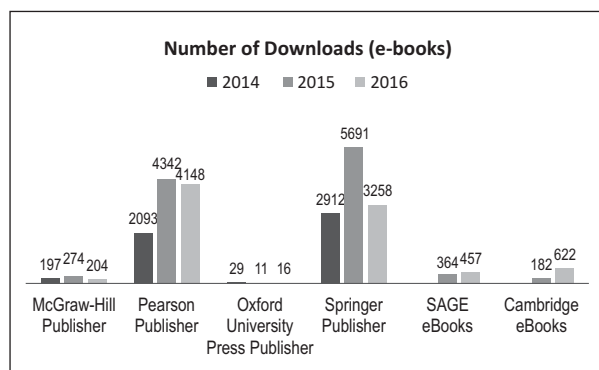


Number of Items downloaded from Institutional Repository (dspace.bracu.ac.bd) 2016

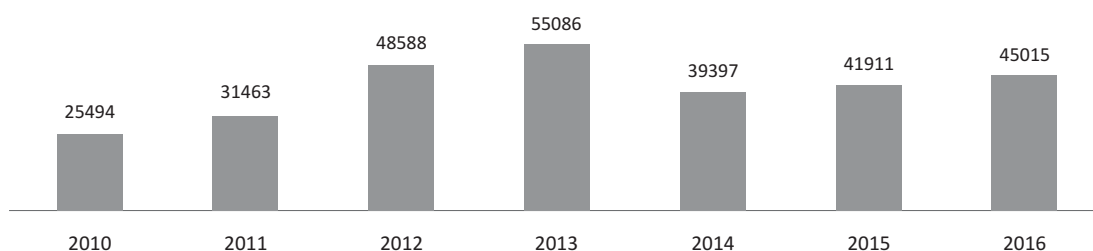
Department	Download
Ayesha Abed Library	18,961
BRAC (1972-2004)	16,279
BRAC Business School (BBS)	1,364,578
BRAC Development Institute (BDI)	16,179
BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)	192,808
BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL)	37,742
BRACU Faculty Publications	2,057
BRACU News Archive	129,458
BRAC University Archives	4,733
BRAC University Publications	151,098
Centre for Research on Bangla Language Processing (CRBLP)	19,429
Department of Architecture	167,207
Department of English and Humanities (ENH)	275,550
Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS)	52,986
Department of Pharmacy	7,281
e-Bulletin	40,500
Economics and Social Sciences (ESS)	7,778
Institute of Educational Development (IED)	12,086
James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH)	10,485
School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS)	459,802
School of Law	1,740

Circulation (Loans and Borrowing Activity) 2011-2016

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Loans	5962	9204	10320	11433	9770	10198
Total Renewals	19368	38736	51640	59061	67959	75645
Total Holds	441	860	917	1246	872	1099



Online Journal Articles downloads 2010-2016



Number of Visits to Ayesha Abed Library Website, Mobile Website and Institutional Repository site
Source: Google Analytics 2016

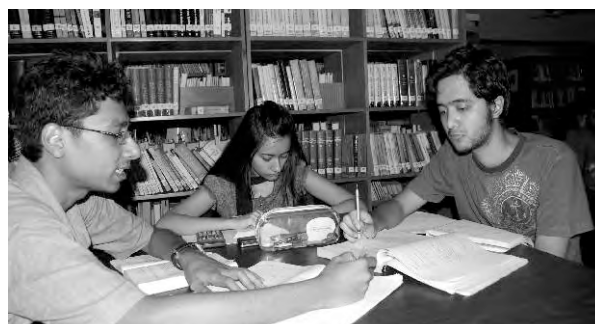
	Page Views	Users	Returning Visitors	New Visitors
Library Website	93,251	15,177	14,643	19,343
Library Mobile Website	12,115	4,373	4,211	5,438
Institutional Repository	589,746	65,705	20,124	65,475

Inquiries, Originality Reports, SMS
January –December 2016

Reference Inquiries	6005
Online Inquiries (Email, Facebook, Library Mobile Website etc)	1060
Originality Reports checked by Turnitin	1969
SMS notification sent to library users	1,05,790

Information Literacy Classes 2012-2016
(Training in using library and information resources)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Sessions	91	95	55	39	47
Participants	2400	2565	1415	1303	1257



BRACU Administration



Overview

BRACU Administration plays a crucial role by providing administrative and logistical support to facilitate academic and other related activities of the university.

Core Functions of Administration

The Administration Office has a wide-ranging number of core functions which are integral to the smooth running of the university. Below are some of its core functions and responsibilities:

- provide logistical support to ensure smooth running of all academic and non-academic activities
- provide support to the admission process
- look after all fixed and variable assets
- ensure maintenance of all assets
- provide logistical support across the university
- ensure high-level safety and security
- ensure successful completion of any event of the university

- ensure healthy and hygienic environment of the university
- provide and maintain transport facilities for faculty, staff and students
- provide and support renovation works for the university

Highlights 2016

- Successfully completed 11th Convocation with many kinds of logistical support
- Provided logistical support for admission tests every semester
- Provided support for conducting classes and exams
- Provided logistical support for all workshops, seminars and conferences across the university
- Provided all kinds of logistical and transport support for BRACU, BRACU new campus and Residential Semester, Savar.
- Provided all kinds of renovation works for the university

Infrastructure and Assets of the University

Assets and Resources	Break down	Remarks
Total Buildings: 06	Total space- 228554 sft	
Total Rooms: 524	Class rooms	67
	Computer Labs	28
	Architecture Studios	08
	Electrical and Electronic Engineering & Electronic and Communication Engineering	11
	Listening & Writing Lab	01
	Faculty & Staff Rooms	424
Other Fixed Assets	ACs	499
	Furniture for Classroom for Students	3100
Total Vehicles: 26	Buses	02
	Jeeps	02
	Avanza	03
	Cars	06
	Micro Buses	12
Staff Working Under BRACU Administration	Drivers	26
	Office Assistants	99
	Maintenance Staff	36
	Telephone Operators	01
	Gardeners	02
	Security (BRAC)	93
	Cleaners (out sourced)	42

Inspiring Excellence

Counseling Unit



“Knowing others is Wisdom, knowing yourself is Enlightenment”- Lao Tzu

Recognizing the importance of mental health support in personal and professional development and well-being, BRAC University Counseling Unit has been offering mental health services for BRACU students, faculty members and staff since 2002. Following an extensive assessment of counseling needs in 2005, the Counseling Unit was formally established in the same year. In response to the growing need for counseling service, the unit now consists of nine professional counselors working under the supervision of Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director, BRAC Institute of Languages. Professor Mehtab Khanam, Chairperson, Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology, advises the unit in case supervision and professional growth with her vast experience and knowledge in the field. This unit provides counseling for problems resulting from fast-paced and complex lifestyle through offering empathetic listening, appropriate therapeutic procedures, and by helping to maintain a good balance of psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual aspects of our being as a whole. The counselors provide a wide range of support services and educational programmes at the Mohakhali and at the Residential Campus at Savar.

The mission of the Counseling Unit is to offer unbiased mental health services and support to assist in moving towards positive changes. It supports an environment that fosters personal growth, development, and psychological wellbeing. The unit also follows the American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics to maintain confidentiality, nonjudgmentality and respect for individual and cultural differences.

Mental Health Services Offered

Counseling Service: The Counseling Unit offers individual, group, couple and parent counseling sessions. Some of the issues that students come with for counseling are: concerns related to parenting; academic concerns (e.g., problem with presentation, difficulties in group work, etc.); adjustment issues (e.g., adjustment with the course, peer, faculty member), addiction, anxiety; relationship issues and etc.

Starting university is an exciting life-event full of changes and challenges. Students may face a variety of challenges in personal development, academic performance and adjustment to university life. Therefore, this unit assists students to learn to manage personal issues and situational crises, develop strategies to adjust to campus life and cope with academic stress, and

grow self-awareness, personal responsibility and skills.

In the year 2016, the unit provided counseling services to a total of 403 clients both at the Mohakhali Campus and at the Residential Campus. Out of all these clients, most of them were self-referred and some were referred by the BRACU authority. The total number of sessions were 1073.

Workshops/Training: The unit also offers a variety of workshops and training on mental health issues, healthy lifestyles, preventive measures and positive habits for students. In 2016, the unit offered as many as 27 workshops on a variety of issues such as "Meditation", "Anger Management", "Stress Management", "Emotional Intelligence-way to successful life", "Managing Exam Anxiety", "Self Love and Self Respect", "Love, Laugh and Learn", "Bullying and Mental Health", "Let's Appreciate Ourselves", "Group Dynamics", "How to Say Hello", "Self Empowerment against Sexual Harassment", "Sowing the seeds of Friendship", etc. Besides, the Counseling Unit organized a series of workshops at the Residential Campus as a part of the observance of World Mental Health Day. In 2016, on the basis of students' need, the unit offered a workshop on motivational session for English 091 students and 3 workshops on "Adjustment with Self and Others" for the students of BRACU girls' Hostel. In 2016, this unit also reached out to other stakeholders of the university community through counseling sessions, educational programmes and workshops for faculty members and staff at BRACU.

Seminars: Every semester, the Counseling Unit arranges seminars on a variety of psychosocial issues for raising community awareness on mental health wellbeing. In the year 2016, the Counseling Unit conducted 3 seminars on "Learning Today, Saving Tomorrow: Awareness on Addiction" at Savar Residential Campus on 13 February, 4 June and 9 September 2016 respectively, to educate the youth about the negative consequences of abusing drugs. In the seminar, the unit provided necessary information regarding available counseling and other resources to prevent or cure drug addiction. Besides, to promote and convey the importance of parent's contribution to the students' success and well-being, this unit also hosted two seminars titled "Parenting" with the parents of BRACU students on 28 May and 17 December 2016. In addition, like previous years, in 2016, the Counseling Unit also hosted a seminar to observe World Mental Health Day on 20 October 2016.

Additional Activities at BRACU

In 2016, the Counseling Unit also worked in collaboration with other offices inside the university. As part of that, the unit facilitated a session in Faculty Orientation Workshop, which was offered by the Professional Development Centre; hosted short sessions on parenting; advised students of the First Year Advising Team (FYAT) programmes, conducted short sessions on counseling at FYAT Day; and conducted academic skills workshops. Some of the members of the Counseling Unit also worked as the instructors of the classes of Introduction to Psychology (PSY

Highlights of 2016

Counseling
403 Clients
1073 Sessions

Seminars
6 Seminars
1715 Audience

Workshops
27 Workshops
935 Participants

	Mohakhali Campus	Residential Campus
Counseling	No. of Clients: 246 No. of Sessions: 619	No. of clients: 157 No. of Sessions: 454
Seminar	No. of Seminars: 03 No. of Audience: 250	No. of Seminars: 03 No. of Audience: 1465
Workshop	No. of Sessions: 07 No. of Participants: 190	No. of Sessions: 20 No. of Participants: 745
Other Work Saad Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Conduction • FYAT Advising • Parents Orientation Session • Faculty Orientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness Campaign • BRAC Visit and Social Learning Lab • Research and Writings Articles

101) and Psychology for Architecture (PSY 421), which were offered by the Department of Economics and Social Sciences. In addition, the unit conducted a number of promotional activities such as preparing and updating the Counseling Unit's website and brochure, and ribbon binding to promote mental health awareness inside the campuses. On the basis of needs, the unit also assisted and participated in various activities of the residential campus, such as BRAC Visit Programme, Social Learning Lab, Parents Meeting and Public Health Orientation Seminar.

Extended Support

The Counseling Unit is also actively involved in a variety of training initiatives, educational programmes and collaborative efforts inside and outside the university. For the last five years, this unit has been facilitating motivational sessions for the students of the Medhabikash Programme under the BRAC Education Program (BEP). In the year 2016, this unit conducted 2 workshops for them.

Research and Article Publication

In 2016, members of the unit published various articles to create community awareness on mental health issues. Two members of the Counseling Unit presented and published a research titled "Parental dynamics in mental health and well-being of adolescent children" in an international conference in India. Another member presented and published a research paper titled "Difference between third

gender people and gender conforming people in life satisfaction and life stress" in an international conference in Singapore. Moreover, one member of the unit published an article titled "You Deserve Better" in Dhaka Tribune, 05 March 2016. Another member published an article titled "সম্পর্কে বিশ্বাস, শ্রদ্ধা, ভালোবাসা, আন্তরিকতা বজায় রাখুন" in The Daily Ittefaq on 25 July 2016, while another member published an article on "কিভাবে কথা বলবেন সন্তানের সঙ্গে" in Prothom Alo in October 2016.

Professional Skills Development

BRACU highly appreciates and encourages its faculty members and staff to maintain and enhance their knowledge and professional skills, so that they can deliver better quality service and meet the expectations and the requirements of their profession. In 2016, members of the Counseling Unit attended different training, workshops, seminars and conferences such as Faculty Orientation and Development Programme, Certificate in Higher Education Teaching, Workshop on Learning Outcomes-Lesson Planning-Reflections; Workshop on Psychodynamics, Psychotraumatology and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing; Transactional Analysis 101; Mindfulness as a Therapeutic Tool, Psychodrama; sessions on Certified Transactional Analyst (CTA), Learning outcomes, Lesson Planning and Critical Reflection.



Finance and Accounts Department



BRACU Finance and Accounts Department operates under the supervision of the Treasurer, who is directly appointed by the Chancellor (President-Government Republic of Bangladesh). The Finance and Accounts Department serves the following primary activities:

- receives tuition, admission and other fees from the students
- receives research grants from donors
- makes all types of payments and arranges IOU/Advances

Other activities by this department include:

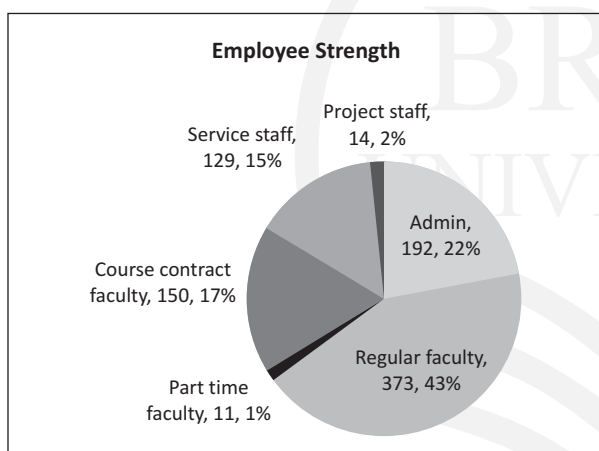
- Weekly Fund Position Report, Monthly Central Budget Variance Report
- Annual Financial Statements
- Scholarship Reports
- Provident Fund and Gratuity Fund Financial Statements

- Donor Reports
- Taxation activities in respect to the university and its faculty and staff
- Student enrollment and registration
- Faculty and staff payroll
- Fixed assets management
- Cash and cheque management
- Budget preparation and budgetary control
- Financial forecasting, project proposals, etc. to meet the various requirements for the new campus at Merul, Badda

It also handles a number of Donor Projects Audit, Internal Audit round the year and the Statutory Audit for various stakeholders.

The Finance and Accounts Department also provides financial information, analysis and reports to the management and assists in the policy and decision-making process of BRACU.

Human Resources Department



BRACU Human Resources Department (HRD) is highly dedicated to create a platform for human resource development to comply with the mission of the university. This is carefully done by its good practices and innovative approaches. The policies and procedures are being updated regularly to cope with the timely demand. This department plays a significant role in implementing management decisions without compromising the benefits and scope of improvement for all the employees working at BRACU.

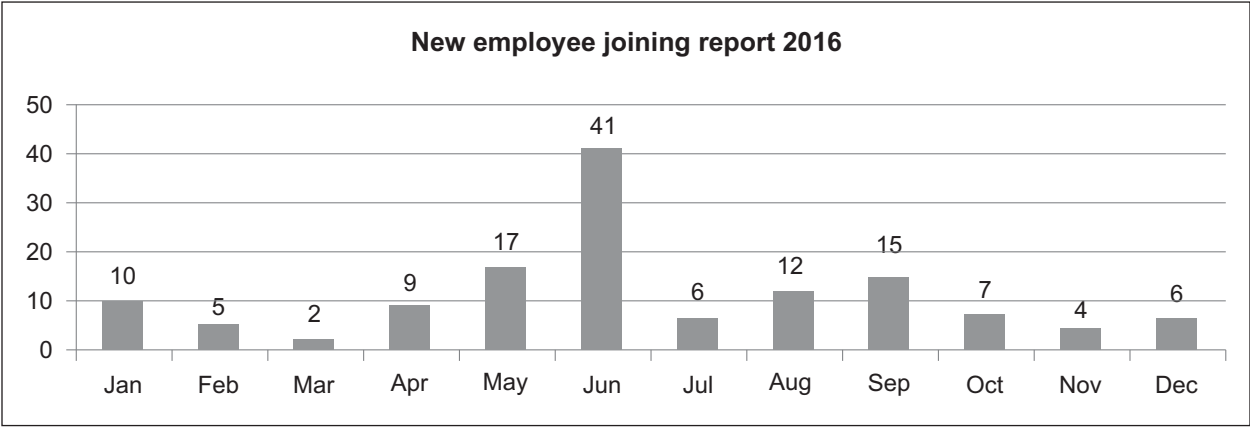
The department also works towards achieving the objective of making BRACU a centre of excellence. In 2016, it has introduced a new performance appraisal system for faculty members and worked to align the appraisal system once a year for all confirmed administrative staff. The department organized two separate training programmes in

2016 for the administration and management staff focusing on individual development as well as organizational development.

The HRD follows the University Grants Commission guidelines to shape its recruitment policy with the objective of recruiting talented faculty members and administrative staff. In 2016, HRD launched the e-recruitment system through which 134 employees joined BRACU as faculty, administrative staff, project staff, and service staff. Interviews arranged by HRD included written test, computer test and face-to-face interview for recruiting administrative staff. The department follows separate procedures for recruiting faculty members which includes demo-classes, panel interviews, etc., before the final selection.

There are separate human resource policies for academic and non-academic staff. These procedures include all the issues pertinent to human resource management at BRACU. A code of conduct on sexual harassment is in place and followed by all employees working at BRACU.

HRD welcomes every new employee in a friendly manner with an overview of the organization before the formal orientation. The department also provides an orientation kit to new employees, a form for official ID, a form for computer access and e-mail access. HRD at BRACU manages biometric attendance system for the administrative staff. Employees can see their attendance and profile information anytime from anywhere through web access to their profile.



Information Technology Department



Objective

The principal objectives of the IT department are to provide all the members and departments of BRACU with:

- standard and updated IT services
- a smoothly operating automation system
- high level network security

Responsibility

The core responsibilities of the IT are to:

- maintain a fully functioning high level automation system
- provide email and database services
- provide 24-hour onsite services related to IT
- provide IT logistics to all the members of BRACU
- tend to all IT equipments across the university

Facilities Provided by BRACU IT Department

- Support for over 2030 personal computers used by faculty members and labs of various departments.
- Internet bandwidth of over 310 Mbps from BRACNet, Novocom and BTCL
- Secured mail server using the open source Zimbra
- Customized Student Information System (USIS) software and enrolment software
- Data back-up service provided by redundant data base servers
- A data centre that is maintained using state-of-the-art brand servers from IBM, HP and DELL
- 3-tier power backup system for the server room operation
- IT related support for over 67 well-equipped classrooms
- Instant support to 23 computer labs
- Over 40 IT support personnel, including network and server specialists, who are deployed to provide instantaneous support to all departments

In order to function smoothly, the department has a Data Centre with an automated data processing software application in the system which includes: University Students Information System (USIS); a number of servers in clusters; powerful open source platforms like RHEL and Ubuntu used as the operating system; and a powerful open source database utilizing Postgre SQL. The USIS cluster operates in a configuration called the “no single point of failure”. However, to enhance the performance of USIS, a need to separate the functions of Admissions, Exam and Transcript and Enrollment activities have been detected and discussed.

In 2016, owing to some changes in policy and financial incongruity, the infrastructure and hardware maintenance support was reclaimed from biTS. Following the transformation, there was also an employee migration from biTS to BRACU, restructuring the in-house BRACU IT team. The contract with biTS for providing software maintenance and support for the USIS and 11 other softwares was also terminated following operational discordance. Consequently, a software development team was put together in 2016 to redress the system glitches associated with the USIS and address the changes requested by various offices of BRACU.

The hardware infrastructure of BRACU consists of several servers out of which the USIS server cluster is the most significant. The infrastructure includes a network connectivity connecting all the six campus buildings by optical fiber. Possibilities of procuring two firewalls – NGFW for network protection and Web server Application Delivery Appliance- have been discussed upon to provide protection against malware, hacking Trojans, viruses, DDOS attacks, etc. Furthermore, a connection to BdREN information highway is being explored presently. This connectivity to BdREN is expected to help BRACU use the information highway connecting the Trans Eurasian Information Network (TEIN).

Institutional Quality Assurance Cell



The Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of BRACU was established in July 2015 with a view to ensuring quality in all types of activities of the university. IQAC was established as project for a period of 3 years with financial assistance from HEQEP, UGC and World Bank. IQAC will become a permanent organ of the University after three years and its operations will be sustained and maintained under the revenue budget of the university.

General Objective

To promote a quality enhancement culture within the university by ensuring that the academic entity adopts and implements Quality Assurance (QA) standards and benchmarked quality criteria.

Specific Objectives of the IQAC

1. Review existing policies and procedures of BRACU
2. Assess and strengthen capacity for effective governance, teaching-learning, research and community services
3. Institutionalize quality assurance systems within the university
4. Prepare the university to meet the external quality assurance assessment and accreditation requirements
5. Monitor and evaluate self-assessment (SA) practices and processes through audit, survey and other instruments; and
6. Co-ordinate all QA related activities at the national level; and liaise with UGC and other external QA agencies.

The role of IQAC

The IQAC was set up following an administrative order of the university authority. It is organized in a manner which befits the size, existing structure and capacity of the university as delineated in the Act. The role of IQAC is to:

1. support the university in achieving its vision through providing quality tertiary education
2. function as a central quality assurance cell for the university and review existing standards and procedures
3. develop new standards, policies, systems, processes, and procedures by adapting and incorporating best practices
4. systematically monitor and evaluate university practices and processes through audit, survey and other instruments as deemed fit to ensure generally acceptable standards of quality

Organogram of IQAC, BRACU



Workshops/Training Programmes

IQAC organized some important workshops and training programmes to implement its broad objectives in 2016

Training on Self-Assessment (SA) Held at BRACU

A training on Self-Assessment (SA) was held on 14 January 2016 at GDLN Conference Room, BRACU. IQAC organized this event. Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D., Director of IQAC, BRACU delivered his introductory speech at the beginning of the programme. Professor M Abul Kashem, Ph.D, Quality Assurance (QA) Specialist, Quality Assurance Unit (QAU), UGC, discussed on SA concepts and techniques. Dr. A.B.M. Rahmatullah, Additional Director, IQAC, American International University- Bangladesh, talked on priority areas and standard-wise documentations to prepare SA report. A total of 24 members of Self-Assessment Committee (SAC) of different programmes/entities attended the training programme. Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Additional Director, IQAC, BRACU and other officials of IQAC, BRACU were also present at the training session.

Town Hall Meeting for the Administrative Employees

A Town Hall Meeting for the Administrative Employees was arranged by the Human Resources Department (HRD) on 15 February 2016. This event was facilitated by IQAC, BRACU. The purpose of the meeting was not only to share feedbacks obtained from opinion survey done at the end of 2015 by HRD for administrative employees where they were asked to rate their job satisfaction level and to give some recommendations regarding the changes that they perceive as important at BRACU but also to hear their concerns that are above and beyond the survey. The interactive session ended with the inspiring speech by Dr. Farhat M. Iftekharuddin, Pro-Vice Chancellor (current charge). Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D. Director, IQAC Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Additional Director, IQAC were also present.

Workshop on Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education: Administrative Challenges & Role of non-teaching Staff.

A Workshop on Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education: Administrative Challenges & Role of Non-teaching Staff was held on 23 February 2016 at BRACU auditorium. IQAC of BRACU organized

this event. Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D., Director, IQAC, BRACU delivered his introductory speech at the beginning of the programme. Dr. Aunul Islam, Ph.D., DIC, Quality Assurance Specialist from the UK was present as speaker. He discussed and shared how non-academic staff can contribute to the quality assurance process in innovative ways. Major General (Retired) Muhammad Sahool Afzal, Registrar, BRACU, Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Additional Director of IQAC, BRACU and a total of 60 administrative staff of BRACU participated the workshop. The workshop was ended with a participatory questions-answer session.

Workshop on Quality Assurance, Institutional Review, Assessment Process and Accreditation Standards: Role of Teaching Faculty

A Workshop on Quality Assurance, Institutional Review, Assessment Process and Accreditation Standards: Role of Teaching Faculty was held on 10 March 2016 at BRACU auditorium. IQAC of BRACU (BRACU) organized this event. Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D. Director, IQAC, BRACU, delivered his welcome address at the beginning of the program.

Dr. M. H. Rahman, Quality Assurance Specialist from Canada was present as keynote speaker. He discussed on 'Building Quality Education: Institutional Standards' in the first session and on 'Building Quality Education: Program Standards' in the second session of the workshop. Members of Quality Assurance Committee (QAC), SAC, Chairpersons/ Heads and representatives of faculty from Institutes/Schools/Departments of BRACU attended the workshop. Both the sessions were concluded with two different technical sessions on question and answer. Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Additional Director also with other officials of IQAC, BRACU were also present at the workshop.

Workshop on A LOOK AT THE DIGITAL FUTURE

A workshop on 'A Look at the Digital Future' was held on 31 March 2016 at GDLN Conference Room. IQAC of BRACU (BRACU) organized this event. Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D. Director of IQAC, BRACU, delivered his welcome speech at the beginning of the program.

Mr. Ariful Bashir, Director, Strategy and Innovation of Red Rocket Ltd., was the keynote speaker. During the presentation, Mr. Bashir focused on the

basics of digital marketing and shared his experiences as a pioneer in the digital and social media business platform. He also shared some innovative videos which encouraged the audiences specially the students to get them involved in the Digital Marketing areas with their innovative ideas. Faculty members, students and administrative staff participated in the workshop. Major General (Retired) Muhammad Sahool Afzal, Registrar, BRACU, Professor Firdous Azim, Ph.D., Chairperson, ENH, BRACU, Mr. N I M Alamgir, Head IT, BRACU, Dr. Shahidur Rahman, Additional Director of IQAC, BRACU, were also present at the workshop. The workshop sought feedback from the participants and concluded with an interactive question-answer session.

Training Workshop on Data Management & Self-Assessment Report Writing

A training workshop on Data Management & Self-Assessment Report (SAR) Writing was held on 23

August 2016, at GDLN Conference Room, BRACU. IQAC of BRACU organized this programme. Professor Md. Tafazzal Hussain, Ph.D., Director, IQAC, BRACU, delivered welcome address at the training workshop.

Professor M Abul Kashem, Ph.D. and Professor Sanjoy Kumar Adhikary, Ph.D., QA Specialists at QAU, UGC were present as the facilitators at the training workshop. Professor Kashem, BRACU, discussed various processes of the data management in the first session, and Professor Adhikary gave a presentation on the SAR writing procedure in the second session. A total of 34 participants including members of Self-Assessment Committee (SAC), administrative staff, and IQAC officials, were present at the workshop. The programme was concluded with two different technical sessions of question and answer. This was a very useful training workshop on Self-Assessment Report (SAR) Writing.

Major Events



Workshop on Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education
Administrative Challenges & Role of non-teaching Staff



Town Hall Meeting for the Administrative Employees



Workshop on Quality Assurance, Institutional Review, Assessment Process and
Accreditation Standards Role of Teaching Faculty

Medical Centre



BRACU medical centre provides medical service to its students, faculty and staff. The centre is well-equipped to provide necessary emergency medical service, advice and referral service to the university community. Both the medical centres, one in the main campus at Mohakhali and the other at the Residential Campus at Savar, have a medical team consisting of qualified and professional doctors and nurses.

The year 2016 was a busy year for the medical team. The major activities of 2016 are listed below:

- A total of 7463 patients visited the medical centre, of which 3141 were at BRACU main campus and 4322 were at Savar Campus. Among them 5195 were students and 2268 were faculty members and staff. All were given adequate advice and prescription after their clinical evaluation.
- Out of the most frequently occurring cases, 1194 were trauma and burn injuries. Other cases were Respiratory Tract Infections (793), common cold and viral fever (729), bronchial asthma (205), GIT problems (1035), skin diseases (362), eye and ear problems (130), dental problems (99), hypertension (115), gynecological problems (202) and other symptoms (2599).
- About 12 students were sent to the lab to be diagnosed for drug addiction.
- The medical team vaccinated 43 high risk people for Typhoid, Cervical Cancer, Tetanus and Hepatitis-B.
- At the medical centre, blood sugar test of 133 people and blood grouping of 35 people were performed.
- The medical team designed and posted various awareness posters pertaining to health issues and subsequent preventive measures, such as Asthma, Anti-Smoking, Zika Virus, dengue fever and seasonal diseases.
- Health check-up of around 3200 students was done by the team. Among them, 1900 were newly admitted students while 1300 students were from residential semester.
- Two blood donation programmes were organised at the main campus and another one at the midwifery programme (SPH) in collaboration with SHANDHANI of Dhaka Medical college and OCSAR.
- To ensure safe drinking water, water sample was collected and tested at MNS department and icddr, b for a total of 25 times in 2016. Samples were collected from six buildings of BRACU, hostels, BIGD and Savar campus.
- As a community service, the medical team attended to about 350 patients among the family members of BRACU staff and faculty.
- Medical team visited BRACU female accommodation (every week) and BRACU cafeteria (every working day) to ensure the healthy environment and food hygiene.
- Medical team collected blood samples for blood test in BRACU lab of MNS Department and Pharmacy Department.

Office of Career Services and Alumni Relations, Office of Co-curricular Activities and Office of Student Affairs



Office of Career Services and Alumni Relations

Office of Career Services and Alumni Relations (OCSAR), BRACU started its journey in 2001 with the aim to help students in their professional development.

Since its inception, OCSAR is poised to consolidate and expand its range of services for students by ensuring their optimal preparedness for the professional world and induction as active members of a revamped alumni association through a democratically mandated body.

The OCSAR has a director, four full-time staff, working to develop the leading career service office in the country, one which compares favorably with the best career services globally.

The Core Programmes of the OCSAR

The core programmes are; career counseling, CV writing, interview skills; Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP); on-campus recruitment sessions; individual advising; workshops and seminars; networking session; internships; full time and part-time job placements; and alumni relations.

Apart from dealing with these core issues, OCSAR is engaged with a range of related strategic activities that are important for both graduating students and the university as a whole.

Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP)

PSDP, a flagship 13 week modular course, is a unique, intensive course dedicated to preparing final year students for the corporate world. The curriculum of the new PSDP goes beyond CV writing skills, job search skills and interview skills. It also provides essential guidance to the students on issues such as self-assessment, career exploration, the job search process, and further education.

In 2016 time a number of PSDP classes were conducted by experienced personnel from different economic sectors in order to provide students with the real vibes of corporate world.

The interactive sessions with the students were not only effective but, has also helped students gather knowledge on corporate trends and required leadership attributes in future career progression. Stronger links with different industries help students prepare for the world of work. On the other hand, corporate organisations get an idea of BRACU students' perceptions and expectations from the different economic sectors.

Representatives from Citibank NA, Unilever Bangladesh, Bangladesh Youth Leadership Centre (BYLC), Square Group, Chevron, Augmedix, Grameenphone Limited, GlaxoSmithKline BD Limited, VSO Bangladesh and Accenture, some of whom are alumni of BRACU, conducted PSDP

sessions on various career related issues as guest speakers in the PSDP sessions.

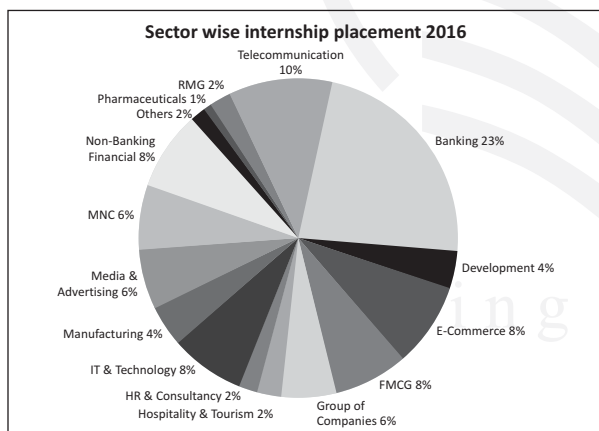
Individual Advising

To facilitate students with maximum assistance regarding career choices, job search and academic counseling, OCSAR offers individual advising session to the final year students. The purpose of individual advising is to help students explore their strengths, interests, weakness and other transferable skills alongside assistance regarding career and academics choices. The advisors guide students to choose suitable career paths. The advisors are always open to assist students as well as encourage and motivate them in all that they pursue professionally and personally when required.

Internship

In the year 2016, OCSAR arranged internships for 397 BBA students and 137 MBA students. Additional 25 students from EEE, 26 from ENH, 14 from CSE, 5 from ESS, 2 from MNS were placed in a variety of organizations according to their preferred choice of industry such as banking, telecommunication, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, advertising and event management, E-commerce and other areas.

The following chart shows the sector-wise Internship Placement (Spring 2016- Fall 2016):



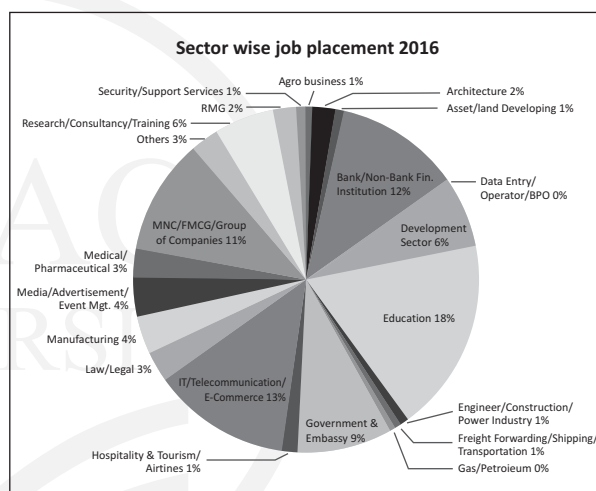
Job Placements

OCSAR connects employers with the students and vice versa through various job placements. It works with more than hundred companies from different sectors including multinational corporations (MNCs), telecommunications, banks, IT, hospitality and other areas. Over the years, OCSAR has catered to strengthen linkage with different organizations from different industry and provided them with suitable candidates for the relevant positions.

The following chart shows the sector-wise job placement of the year 2016:

- 300 job opportunities were circulated by OCSAR and 4678 CV's were submitted to companies (one candidate has applied to multiple companies)
- Job placement of 500 graduates of the 10th & 11th Convocation in MNC's and local companies was achieved

In 2016, OCSAR introduced a dedicated web portal (<http://ocsar.bracu.ac.bd/>) for BRACU graduates to provide internship and job related services to efficiently serve the students seeking employment. This web portal also keeps track of both current and alumni in various industries and contacts of employers recruiting from BRACU.



BRACU Alumni Network

OCSAR is also responsible for maintaining the growth of BRACU alumni network. The service it has to offer is open to all alumni. OCSAR aspires to widen the alumni network by keeping in touch with its graduates employed in all types of corporate and public sectors. Also, OCSAR updated the alumni database by calling over phone all past graduates over a period of 4 months.

Alumni Association of BRACU (AABRACU) held its annual Iftaar mahfil on 11 June 2016 at BRACU campus and as a part of its community engagement. The association has launched its new website [<http://www.aabracu.net/>] which is believed to be one of the best alumni websites of the country. Professor Rahim B Talukdar, Advisor, BBS, Ivan Shafaat Bari, Director, OCSAR & Student Affairs and Md. Tajdin Hassan, President, AABRACU inaugurated the website. This website will bridge between job seekers and employers of this network as well as disseminate alumni information to keep the alumni members up-to-date.

In order to assess the members of its alumni, OCSAR maintains an internal database of graduates including information of their organization of employment and their designation, which are updated at regular intervals.

Besides, successful and skilled BRACU alumni are invited by OCSAR to conduct sessions of the Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP) on a regular basis. This also opens an avenue for current students to build strong set of connections within the BRACU alumni network. OCSAR also facilitates the “Marvels” an open focus group discussion sessions each semester in collaboration with BizBee, one of the Business clubs of BRACU. In this session BRACU graduates, who are already established in different sectors, groom the students exclusively within small groups. Furthermore, AABRACU is also publishing different columns focusing on the recent trends of job market in the BRACU monthly newspaper, the BRACU Express, in cooperation with OCSAR.

AABRACU is regularly using the office space allocated to them and conducting by-weekly meeting of the Executive Body Members at OCSAR. One of the major accomplishment of AABRACU is when it organized the first ever Alumni Fest without monetary contribution from BRACU on; 18 March 2016, where five alumni were acknowledged for their excellence in different areas. The program was also attended by industry leaders. AABRACU has also organized “The Alumni Gala” on 10 December 2016 in Bangladesh Shooting Sport Federation for the degree awarded graduates of the 11th Convocation. Md. Tajdin Hassan, president of AABRACU spoke of the importance of having a united alumni community which was further consolidated through General Secretary Niaz Makhdum's sharing of his time as a student and what it meant to have a strong network. The event's objective was to celebrate the achievements of the new alumni and serve as a platform for all alumni to engage and build stronger networks.

OCSAR is also working with the Planning Commission of the Bangladesh Government to develop the National CSR framework. It is worth mentioning that OCSAR, BRACU is the only University representative in the country working on this project with the Government of Bangladesh along with renowned Bangladeshi industry representatives.

Major highlights of 2016

A session on “Women at Work” at Savar Campus

OCSAR, in association with Everjobs.com, conducted an inspirational session at the premises

of BRACU Savar Residential Campus on 23 January 2016. The purpose of the event was to show acknowledgement to the women who are working in our society.

Mr. Ivan Shafaat Bari, Director, OCSAR, opened the session with his introductory speech. The keynote speech at this event was given by Mr. Sabirul Islam Founder, Inspire 1 Million People, and Brand Ambassador of Everjobs Bangladesh.

Along with him, there were other distinguished guest speakers including Ms. Zinat Sanu Swagata, actor, musician, Director, social worker, Mr. Naveed Mahbub, Electrical Engineer, Ford, Qualcomm, Kyocera Wireless, Takata, Ms. Rubaba Dowla, Chief Service Officer and Head of m-commerce, Airtel Bangladesh Limited, Ms. Shompa Reza, model and actress, founder of the schools Anando Niketan and Rodela Chottor and Cartoonist Tanmoy, Assistant Editor & Cartoonist at 'Unmad' – the monthly satire magazine, and Ms. Nazmunnaahar Laizu, Dorm Supervisor, BRACU Residential Campus.

PDF Winter Boot Camp 2016

OCSAR represented BRACU at the PDF Winter Boot Camp 2016 held at Sheikh Hasina National Youth Center, Savar from 29-30 January 2016.

On day one, Ms. Shanzida Shahab Uddin, Career Services Executive, OCSAR, conducted a session on CV & Cover Letter Writing. She discussed about how to present educational and professional history in front of prospective employers through CV.

On day two, Mr. Ivan Shafaat Bari, Director OCSAR, discussed present job market scenario in Bangladesh with the participants.

He explained employers' attitude, what they expect from graduates and their perceptions of the employability skills of new graduates. He urged the participants to develop a range of skills and attributes that include team work, communication, leadership, critical thinking, problem solving and office managerial abilities since employers expect graduates to demonstrate those skills on the job.

BRAC Onnesha

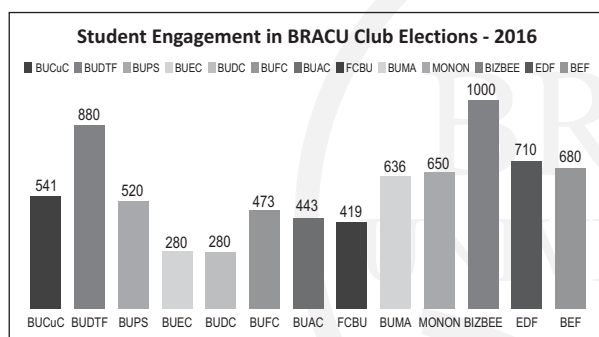
OCSAR provided support to CSE department to get approval from Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) for frequency allocation and radio receiver equipment clearance to receive signal from BRAC Onnesha once it is at Low Earth Orbit.

Office of Co-curricular Activities

Office of Co-Curricular Activities (OCA) provides encouragement and full support in the participation of students in a wide range of activities that promotes leadership, life skills, and personal development while enhancing campus life. OCA collaborates with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community to make the co curricular arena a vibrant one.

251 events were organized by 24 clubs and OCA in the year 2016.

For the first time since the inception of BRACU, OCA organized open election for 13 clubs in the year 2016. They are: BUFC, FCBU, BUAC, BUCuC, BUDTF, Monon, BUDC, BUEC, BUPH, BUEDF, BUBEF, BIZBEE and BUMA.



Film Club Election

On 28 January 2016, BRACU witnessed the first ever election to select the governing body of BRACU Film Club (BUFC), one of the largest clubs of the university.

Launch of BRACU Express

BRACU Express, BRACU's official campus newspaper inaugural publication, took place on 27 September 2016.

Sports facility for BRACU students

In December 2016, BRACU made arrangements for Cricket net practice and Futsal facility at Niketon in the unused warehouse of Aarong with their kind approval.

Social Impact of BRACU Student Clubs

Football Club BRACU (FCBU)

They organize a football camp once every semester with special children.

Cricket BRACU (CBU)

Arranges cricket camp for the under privileged children once every semester.

BRACU Chess Club (BUHC)

Trainers from the club went to BRAC schools to teach chess to the underprivileged students. As a start, the two schools were selected that are situated in Korail Bosti and Shaat Tola Bosti.

BRACU Communications and Language Club (BUCLC)

They offer a special free course for developing English communication skills for children from underprivileged families.

BRACU Computer Club (BUCC)

They have developed a website for Bangladesh Business Disability Network [<http://bbdn.com.bd/>].

BRACU Law Society (BULS)

They provide free human rights knowledge to people living in the slums all around Dhaka city.

BRACU Marketing Association (BUMA)

They organize Marvels, a signature event that creates a bridge between current students of BRACU and Alumni of BRACU. Here, established Alumni's are invited to inspire the current students.

BRACU Pharma Society (BUPS)

They distributed reliefs among the flood victims. They organized an event, Winter Clothes Distribution: "WINTER DIMPLE" on 30 January 2016.

BRACU Monon

They arrange blood donation camps every semester in association with Quantum Foundation. They also raised funds and contributed for the treatment of Bayezid, a deformed child admitted at DMCH.

Business and Economics Forum (BUBEF)

They organize the "Meet The Leaders" programme where top managements from different leading business organizations (DBBL, Young Consultants, etc) come to share key practical insights about the contemporary business world with the student community.

BRACU Debate Club (BUDC)

BUDC is one of the top achieving clubs of BRACU winning the nationals of UIU British Parliamentary debating championship in November 2016.

BRACU Earth and Environment Forum (BUEEF)

They arranged campus cleaning program and organized multiple seminars on River Pollution and Climate Change and have sold trees for the Sir

Abed Foundation on the occasion of his Birthday celebration.

International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) | BRACU

They organized BUGMUN (BRACU Global Model United Nations) which is the only International MUN in Bangladesh and the biggest one with highest number of committees.

BRACU Drama and Theater Forum (BUDTF)

- Anti-Drugs Drama Competition by the Ministry of Home Affairs
- Theater Visit every week (Fridays) Shilpakala, Charukola, Jahangir Nogor

BRACU Cultural Club (BUCuC)

- SAUFEST Participation
- Jukebox: Fund raising concert for the under privileged
- Inter University Cultural Fest organizer

Robotics Club at BRACU

- International Competition (NASA)
- ROBU Fest-2016
- BRAC Onnesha first ever NANO Satellite by Universities in Bangladesh

Art and Photography Society (BUAP)

They won the Championship title of the National 'Alpona (আলপনা)' Competition organized by Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited "Tomar Ronge Rangao Campus "(তোমার রঙে রাঙাও ক্যাম্পাস)" on the eve of "Pohela Boishakh 1423 (পহেলা বৈশাখ ১৪২৩)".

Major club events of 2016

BRACU Celebrated the 80th Birthday of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG

BRACU celebrated the 80th birthday of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, KCMG, Founder & Chairperson, BRAC and Chairperson, Board of Trustees (BoT), BRACU. Vice Chancellor of BRACU Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D. and a team of teachers and students greeted Sir Abed with flower bouquet, fruits and a greeting card. BRACU students handed over to Sir Abed sketches of him done by them.

INFLUX: Spring 2016

Influx: Spring 2016 is the second round of the members' selection procedure of IABC | BRACU. It is held every semester and the club conducts interview session in which applicants are tested in terms of their aptitude, creativity, interactive skills, stage presence and general knowledge.

Seminar on Nano Technology

A Seminar on Nanotechnology took place on 17 February 2016 at the GDLN centre of BRACU conducted by a brilliant Alumni of BRACU Mr. Sabbir Ahmed Khan, who is now currently affiliated with Lund University.

Social Business InnoVision Seminar by UNESCO Club

To formulate the idea of making the youth more responsive on the way to social business, UNESCO Club hosted a workshop on Social Business InnoVision which was initiated by SBYA Global on 17 February 2016 at the Indoor Auditorium.

Seminar on Climate Change

BUEEF arranged a seminar on Climate Change in Dhaka which was held on 9 February 2016, at BRACU. Professor Dr. Ainun Nishat, Water Resource and Climate Change Specialist, Mr. Asif Zaman, Environmental Engineer and Mr. Quamrul Islam Chowdhury, Chairman of the Forum of Environment Journalist were the speakers at the event.

Diversified Art Exhibition by Art Society

Art society of BRACU organized an exclusive art exhibition that took place on 7 February 2016. The exhibition was inaugurated by Professor Dr. Rahim B. Talukdar, Advisor, BBS, Professor Ferdous Azim, Chairperson, ENH, Mr. Ivan Shafaat Bari, Director, OCSAR and Mr. Mehedi Haque, renowned cartoonist at "UNMAD". The exhibition showed students' eagerness to work with pencils and brushes.

Blood Donation Campaign

OCA and Medical Center in association with Shandhani Bangladesh arranged a blood donation campaign on 14 March 2016. Students and employees of BRACU also participated at the event by donating blood.

Public Speaking Competition

BUCLC hosted a Public Speaking Competition among the undergraduate students on 21 March 2016. Mr. Solaiman Shukhon, Head of Business, WE phone, aamra smart solutions, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Seminar on "Leadership Aspects of the Corporate World"

BRAC Business School in collaboration with Bangladesh Supply Chain Council (BSCC) and Entrepreneurship Development Forum organized a seminar on "Leadership Aspect of the Corporate World", on 8 March 2016.

Intensive Comedy Unit (I.C.U) BRACU MONON Club

Intensive Comedy Unit (I.C.U), the biggest event of BRACU MONON with various stand-up comedians is organized every semester.

ROBU Fest 2016

BRACU Robotics Club (ROBU) arranged an intra University ROBU Fest on 29 March 2016.

BRACU Football League (BUFL)

On 30 July 2016 the biggest sporting event of BRACU, BRACU Football League was organized. The event was powered by Ahmed Group, and partnered by Madchef, The Daily Star and Somoy News.

Club Fair - Club De Carnaval Fall-2016

Club Fair Fall 2016 was organized by BUFC titled 'Club De Carnaval'. This event took place from the 25-27 September 2016. The title sponsor for this three daylong event was MGH Group and Rancon Motors associated as the corporate sponsor along with Nandos, Peyala, Star Cineplex, Wedding Diary, Radio Foorti, Banglalion as partners. Shomoy television and StudentBD24 covered this event as media partners.

BUAC organized Adventure Tourism Fair: Thrill Exhibit

BUAC organized their extra ordinary event titled "Thrill Exhibit"; a two day-long Tourism Fair from 2-3 October 2016 with 12 renowned travel agencies of Bangladesh as stall participants offering various corporate trips in home and abroad.

BRACU Chess Tournament

BUHC organized a chess tournament on 25 October 2016 which was open to all BRACU students & faculty members. Niaz Murshed, subcontinent's first Grandmaster inaugurated the event. Ejaz Hussain, an MA in TESOL student, clinched the championship of the tournament. Shams Ud Duha, Lecturer of BIL, became champion among the faculty members. Dr. Sayeedur Rahman, Academic Coordinator of MA in TESOL program, earned the second position and Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb finished with the 3rd position.

BUHC Participated in International Rating Chess Tournament

BUHC participated in 1st Advocate Enayet Peer Khan Memorial International Rating Chess Tournament held in Barisal City from 26-31 December 2016.

Into the National League

Two teams from BRACU participated in the National Chess League 2016. As the strongest

team from BRACU, the Green team managed to get a victory over the BUET Chess team and was the top university team in the tournament.

BRACU Celebrates a Vibrant Victory Day

On 15 December 2016, BRACU Art Society, BRACU organized an Alpona competition on the university premises, called "Bijoyer Rong Alpona Protijogita".

BRACU Premiere League-2016

The sixth edition of BUPL 2016 was held in Shamoly club field from 5-25 November 2016. 12 teams of different clubs participated in the tournament.

Hult Prize 2016

OCA provided logistic support to BBS in organizing the Hult Prize @ BRACU 2016. The idea that won the seed capital of 1 lac taka by the City Bank is providing low cost biodegradable sanitary napkins for sanitation and sustainable income for the refugees.

BUGMUN 16

BUGMUN 2016, the grandest residential MUN experience being held at BRACU's Savar Campus, took place on 15-20 December 2016.

Footballers for Humanity: A Day with the Special Children

On 10 November 2016, Football Club of BRACU undertook an initiative to help spread happiness among the children with special needs of this society. They visited the Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation (Bangladesh Disabled Foundation) and spent time with the gifted children there.

BRACU Intervarsity Debating Championship 16

BUDC organized an Intervarsity Debating Championship where 11 private and public universities participated in a 3-day-long event.

World Universities Debating Championship

Asif Hasan from BUDC participated in the World Universities Debating Championship 2016-17, which took place in HAGUE, Netherlands.

IIT Techfest

Asia's prestigious Sci-tech festival Techfest was held in IIT Bombay, India. This year a team of young tech enthusiasts from BRACU's Robotics Club showcased their innovations in the exhibition.

Saraswati Puja Celebration

Indoor Games Club, in collaboration with OCA, organized the Saraswati Puja this year in the BRACU auditorium.

Office of Student Affairs

The learning experience at BRACU extends beyond classrooms, lecture halls and textbooks. The university experience and life unfold in campus activities, club events, field tours, the residential campus, community service, internships, and career planning. The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) offers several services that support student learning and development, such as the first-year advising teams, academic and learning workshops and targeted services for at-risk and probation students. The mission of OSA is to enhance the teaching, learning and mentoring of students and to promote a culture of collegiality, creativity and leadership in the university and community.

First Year Advising Team (FYAT)

Mission of FYAT

The central mission of FYAT is to provide an integrated programme of academic advising that seeks to inform and support new students, monitor academic performance and needs, and guide academic planning during the first year. The FYAT advisers and mentors will focus exclusively in those areas of university education and student life that concern all students at the university. In other words, FYAT will design and deliver student-centered services in those areas of academic curriculum and co-curricular activities that are critical to the learning and personal growth of all students, but often falls outside the purview of individual departments. The First Year Advisers thus seek to complement the existing structure of departmental advising and registration by providing guidance in general areas of academic and campus life at BRACU.

Goals

The specific objectives of the FYAT programme are as follows:

- foster common first year experience for all new students
- provide a welcoming and supportive environment for fresher
- inform students about university requirements and campus resources
- facilitate the transition to academic and student life at BRACU
- provide individual points of contact for all new students
- monitor academic performance in first-year courses
- assess student learning needs and other issues that impact performance
- advise students about planning and personal goal-setting for academic success at BRACU

Major Events of FYAT in 2016

Briefing for FYAT Advisers and Mentors

As an integral part of FYAT, each semester the faculty advisers and peer student mentors take part in a "Briefing Session" at the UB-1 Auditorium where they are introduced to the objectives and activities to be undertaken throughout the next two semesters. Director of OSA inaugurates the session. The FYAT team gives detailed explanations on the developmental advising procedures and the schedules to the advisers and mentors and responds to the queries from the participants regarding the programme. The briefing sessions for Spring 2016, Summer 2016, and Fall 2016 semesters were held on 21 December 2015; 24 April 2016 and 18 August 2016 respectively. Total 93 faculty member and 93 senior students, representing every department, were involved with the first year advising programme in 2016.

Meeting with Parents at Freshman Orientation

As a part of the Freshman Orientation programme, each semester OSA arranges an interactive session for parents and guardians of the freshman students. During the session, the Director of OSA introduces the student services and campus resources that support student learning and development at BRACU. Programmes offered by OSA, such as FYAT, PASS and Tutorials, are briefed to the parents. Also, representatives of various academic and non academic departments provide detailed overviews of their respective programmes and services for students. In 2016, Freshman Parents' Orientation programme was held on 03 January, 02 May and 30 August 2016 for Spring, Summer and Fall semesters, respectively.

FYAT-Day and Individual Advising

The FYAT Day is held as a part of the Freshman Orientation programme at the beginning of each semester. Held on the second day of orientation, the FYAT Day provides an opportunity for all new students to meet and interact with the Faculty Advisers, Student Mentors and other new students in small group settings. The day-long event includes group sessions with FYAT members, student presentations on the academic requirements and student services at BRACU and an informal cultural session conducted by existing students and new students from FYAT. OSA organized the FYAT Day for Spring 2016 semester on 04 January, Summer 2016 semester on 03 May and for Fall 2016 semester on 31 August, respectively.

Total 922 students were part of FYAT in Spring 2016 followed by 676 students in Summer 2016 and 341

students in Fall 2016. Students took part in one to one advising sessions during their first semester and were advised and referred according to their individual need. In the second semester, advisers and mentors followed up with the students, especially the ones who are in academic probation.

Probation Advising & Student Support (PASS) Programme

Objectives of the PASS Programme

- to help the students come out of probation
- to assist students on probation to identify the academic challenges for poor performance and assist them with proper solution
- to retain the number of students by decreasing the dropout rate caused by probation through probation removal programme
- to provide a point of contact for the probation students
- to motivate the probation students and aid them with proper campus resources
- to foster developmental academic advising for the probation students
- to improve the retention of at-risk students at BRACU
- to develop the overall student quality in terms of academic result

Major Activities of PASS

The major activities of PASS programmes are individual and/or group advising, series of PASS workshops and tutorials for specific 100 level courses. For the last-chance probation students it is mandatory to take part in the individual probation advising at least two times; one before and another after mid-term exam. Duration of each individual advising session is 30-40 minutes. In case of first time probation students they have to meet with their departmental probation adviser for individual advising. The students are also advised in groups/individual by probation adviser at OSA before and after mid-term exam. Duration of the group advising is 50-60 minutes.

After the mid-term exam, the office of student affairs collects the result of students and finds out the students who are at risk. Students are then advised to register their names for academic success workshops (ASW)/PASS workshops, subject tutorials and individual advising.

PASS Workshops

PASS workshops are specially designed for probation students of BRACU. As the semester progresses, the students may realize that they are not doing well enough to come out of probation for

the lack of proper study habits, lack of seriousness, having difficulties with particular subjects, personal issues, exam anxiety and etc. Objectives of the workshops are:

- to assist the student to realize the reasons behind their probation status and to make sure they avoid these reasons in future academic journey
- to improve the basic study skills of the students for better academic performance
- to prepare the students to set realistic target for their exams and study techniques for the exams
- to aid the students to evaluate their own performance on the basis of their exam marks and to plan proper action for remedy

Achievements of PASS Programme in 2016

1. Probation Removal and Student Retention Support in Spring 2016

A total of 60 last chance probation students and 118 first time probation students were included in the PASS programme for Spring 2016. First time probation students were jointly cared for by their respective departments and probation advisers at OSA.

Out of the 60 last-chance probation students, results of 49 students were found at the end of Spring 2016 semester. Out of the 49 students, 26 (53.06%) successfully came out of probation.

2. Probation Removal and Student Retention Support in Summer 2016

In Summer 2016, a total of 387 students were included in the PASS programme. Out of these 387 students, 359 were in probation for the first-time and 28 were considered for the last-chance to continue their study. First time probation students were jointly cared for by their respective departments and probation advisers at OSA.

Out of 28 last chance probation students, at the end of Summer 2016 semester, results of 24 students were found. 17 (70.83%) out of 24 students successfully came out of probation. Moreover, in case of the first-time probation students 67.46% survived from being into academic probation for two consecutive semesters.

3. Probation Removal and Student Retention Support in Fall 2016

In Fall 2016, a total of 344 students were included in the PASS programme. Out of these 344 students, 99 were considered for the last-chance probation students to continue their study and the rest of the

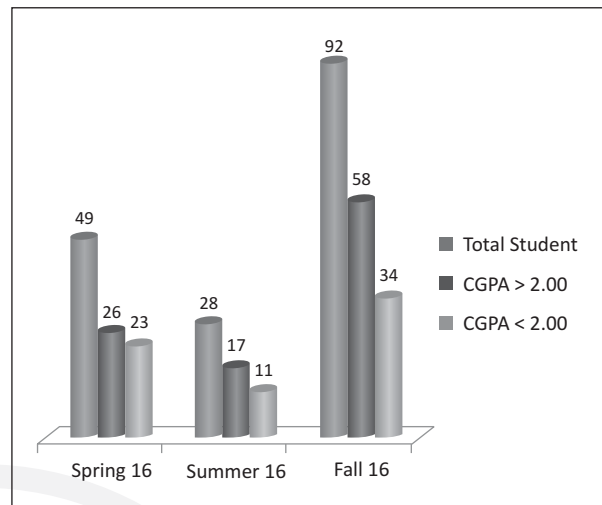
245 students were in the first-time probation category. First time probation students were jointly cared for by their respective departments and probation advisers at OSA. For the last-chance probation students OSA had an integrated programme in the form of individual and/or group advising and tutorial supports.

Out of the 99 last-chance probation students, at the end of Fall 2016 semester, results of 92 students were found. 58 (63.04%) out of 92 students successfully came out of probation after attending PASS programme.

Tutorials

OSA offers and coordinates tutorials offered by the various departments for all BRACU students, especially the freshmen, at-risk students and students on academic probation. Initially the tutorials were offered for students who did not perform well during the Mid-term examinations in specific courses and thus were at risk of failing in the final exam. Tutorials operate in conjunction with lectures; they usually occur either before or after the class lectures. The tutorials generally last 120 minutes and typically in a smaller group than the lectures, with classes comprised of 15 to 20 students.

In BRACU departments have their own built-in programme where at-risk students are identified by their course instructors, and are assigned specific times for tutorials. However, after analyzing the results of both first year and probation students, OSA has introduced tutorials on a pilot scale especially for the



freshmen and probation students from Summer 2016 semester. OSA offer tutorials in selected 100-level courses and also where student failing rate is very high. Along with the faculty members from OSA, student tutors, who are senior students of BRACU, conduct these tutorial sessions. During the tutorial sessions, faculty members and tutors give individual attention to students' specific needs and students have the opportunity to engage with the course materials more directly. In Summer 2016, 84.68% students scored 60% and above in their final exam who attended the tutorials regularly for Math 110 course. In Fall 2016, the percentage of student was 86.99% who got 60% and above after attending the tutorials.



Major Events



BRACU Adventure Club (BUAC) participates in Dhaka International Half Marathon 2016



BRACU Football league 2016



BRACU Chess Tournament 2016



BRACU Students represented Bangladesh in the BORNEO Model United Nations



BRACU Football League 2016



BRACU Cultural Club participated in EWU Inter University Cultural Festival 2016



Footballers for Humanity: A Day with the Special Children



BRACU Premier League Finalist 2016



"Pitha Utshob" at BRACU



BRACU Adventure Club organized 'Adventure Tourism Fair: Thrill Exhibit'



Blood Donation Campaign

Office of Communications



The Office of Communications (OoC) is actively involved in being the communication and information focal point in disseminating all BRACU related information, events and activities.

Be it media coverage and documentation, promotional material development and evolution of synergy and rapport, OoC shines the spotlight on the BRACU brand, ensuring that the message gets home.

OoC also deals with information related to BRACU documents, films, videos and publications and promotes BRACU's reputation and credentials.

Besides, OoC plays a part in planning and organising major events at BRACU, formulates communications and updates documents periodically.

It ensures that BRACU's strategic messages reach all stakeholders including prospective employers of BRACU graduates, students, parents and guardians, potential future students and guardians, alumni, partners in education, business organisations, media, donors and universities around the world.

OoC delves into the depths of BRACU's melting pot of students, teachers and staff every day creating comprehensive corporate marketing, communications and PR strategies, keeping BRACU one step ahead in its league.

Among the myriad of platforms OoC makes use of to keep stakeholders up to date and maintain a top-notch network are the BRACU website and Facebook page and other evolving and up-coming mediums.



Office of Registrar



The Registrar's Office supports the academic mission of the university by providing management and administrative support and assistance to the academic community. This is achieved in accordance with academic policies and procedures established by the Private University Act 2010, rules and regulations formulated by the Ministry of Education, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, the Board of Trustees, Syndicate and Academic Council. The Registrar's Office plays a key role in the review, development and achievements of the goals and objectives of the university.

The Office serves as the repository of faculty information and schedules, course enrollments, course offerings, student records, grades, and degrees conferred. Such records are maintained using information systems and web-services designed to enable students, academic advisers, staff, departments and programmes to conduct their professional duties in a decentralised environment.

It offers a wide range of academic and administrative services associated with admissions, records, registration, advising, graduation services, academic space management and scheduling for students, faculty and staff. It is also responsible for compliance with rules and regulations, policies and the Student Code of Conduct.

STUDENT STATUS			
Undergraduate			6821
Postgraduate			674
Sub-total in BRACU			7495
Postgraduate in School/Institutes			
JPGSPH (MPH)		35	
BIED		105	
MEd	84		
MECD	21		
BIGD		148	
MAGD	22		
MDS	92		
MDMP	1		
MPSM	33		
Total			288
Total of all postgraduates		962	
Total UG & PG			7783
Diploma in Midwifery			402
Total Students			8185
ALUMNI			7353

The Office is divided into three operating offices:

1. The Admission Office
2. The Programme and Registration Office
3. The Transcript and Documentation Office

Admission Office

At the outset of BRACU in 2001, the Admission Office initiated its activities for the enrollment of students under the guidance of the Registrar's Office. The Office plays a vital role in managing and maintaining the university's central admission systems, policies and procedures. It is also responsible for fulfilling all the requirements related to students' admission procedures.

The table below shows an overview of registered students for the years 2014-2016:

Year	Undergraduate			Postgraduate		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
2014	3173	2143	5316	723	559	1282
2015	3412	2571	5983	674	903	1577
2016	3781	2588	6369	561	482	1043

Programme and Registration Office

The Programme and Registration Office is committed to facilitating administrative processes for students and faculty members through proper scheduling, effective student registration and planning academic calendar (Page: 142).

The Office is mainly responsible for the supervision and management of all administrative and operational functions which includes maintaining up-to-date semester course offerings, class and final examination scheduling and invigilation, managing efficient use of classrooms for courses and admission tests, providing student-related information, and assisting the management and other administrative offices on academic matters; ensuring course enrollment and registration through University Student Information System (USIS). In addition, it supports more than 7500 students' course registrations each semester.

In 2016, the Programme and Registration Office has handled the registration process of 1323 students (740 male and 583 female) who enrolled for the Residential Semester (RS).

Transcript and Documentation Office

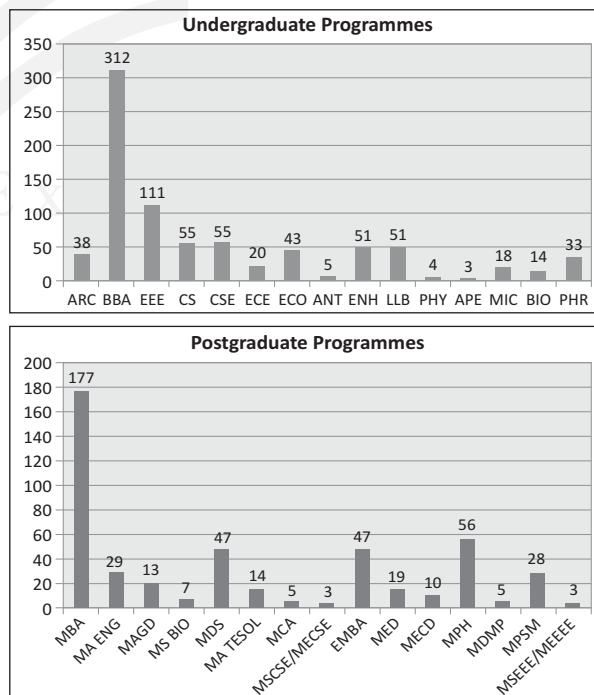
The Transcript and Documentation Office is responsible for managing and maintaining academic records, ensuring the integrity of examinations and generating course transcripts and certificates. The office also verifies students' academic records and issues various certificates and letters pertaining to students' records and academic information.

Examinations are conducted every semester during the period indicated in the academic

calendar. The examination timetables are displayed on notice boards and the BRACU website. The university views academic malpractice seriously and does not condone plagiarism or cheating in examinations. A breach of any rule will render a student liable to disciplinary action which may result in the student's expulsion from the university.

The university has in place standard operating procedures to ensure that examinations are conducted professionally and with integrity. Various security measures and levels of checks are in place for handling the examinations. The results and award lists are presented to the Academic Council and Syndicate for approval and to BoT for confirmation.

One of the biggest events supported by the Transcript and Documentation Office is the Convocation. In 2016, the 11th Convocation was held in International Convention City Bashundhara (Naboratri, Hall-04) Dhaka. A total of 1282 students (813 from undergraduate, 458 from post graduate and 11 from diploma level) were awarded the degrees at the event presided over by Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on behalf of Hon'ble President, People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chancellor, BRACU. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, attended the event as the Hon'ble Guest. Ms. Shabana Azmi, actor and social activist, attended the convocation as the Convocation Speaker. Approximately 5,000 students, parents, faculty members, administrative staff and guests attended the function.



Graduating Student-11th BRACU Convocation 2016



BRAC UNIVERSITY

YEAR PLANNER 2016

www.bracu.ac.bd

Day-Month	January	February	March	April	May	June	Day-Month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January 2017
Sunday	31				1 New Day		Sunday	31 18th Final Examinations			30			1 1st Final Program
Monday		1			2 New Day		Monday		1 18th Final Examinations					2 2nd Final Program
Tuesday		2	1		3 New Day		Tuesday		2 18th Final Examinations			1		3 3rd Final Program
Wednesday		3	2		4 New Day	1	Wednesday		3 18th Final Examinations			2		4 4th Final Program
Thursday		4	3		5 New Day	2	Thursday		4 18th Final Examinations			3	1	5 5th Final Program
Friday	1	5	4	1	6 New Day	3	Friday	1	5 18th Final Examinations	2		4	2	6 6th Final Program
Saturday	2	6	5	2	7 New Day	4	Saturday	2	6 18th Final Examinations	3	1	5	3	7 7th Final Program
Sunday	3	7	6	3	8 New Day	5	Sunday	3	7 18th Final Examinations	4	2	6	4	8 8th Final Program
Monday	4	8	7	4	9 New Day	6	Monday	4	8 18th Final Examinations	5	3	7	5	9 9th Final Program
Tuesday	5	9	8	5	10 New Day	7	Tuesday	5	9 18th Final Examinations	6	4	8	6	10 10th Final Program
Wednesday	6	10	9	6	11 New Day	8	Wednesday	6	10 18th Final Examinations	7	5	9	7	11 11th Final Program
Thursday	7	11	10	7	12 New Day	9	Thursday	7	11 18th Final Examinations	8	6	10	8	12 12th Final Program
Friday	8	12	11	8	13 New Day	10	Friday	8	12 18th Final Examinations	9	7	11	9	13 13th Final Program
Saturday	9	13	12	9	14 New Day	11	Saturday	9	13 18th Final Examinations	10	8	12	10	14 14th Final Program
Sunday	10	14	13	10	15 New Day	12	Sunday	10	14 18th Final Examinations	11	9	13	11	15 15th Final Program
Monday	11	15	14	11	16 New Day	13	Monday	11	15 18th Final Examinations	12	10	14	12	16 16th Final Program
Tuesday	12	16	15	12	17 New Day	14	Tuesday	12	16 18th Final Examinations	13	11	15	13	17 17th Final Program
Wednesday	13	17	16	13	18 New Day	15	Wednesday	13	17 18th Final Examinations	14	12	16	14	18 18th Final Program
Thursday	14	18	17	14	19 New Day	16	Thursday	14	18 18th Final Examinations	15	13	17	15	19 19th Final Program
Friday	15	19	18	15	20 New Day	17	Friday	15	19 18th Final Examinations	16	14	18	16	20 20th Final Program
Saturday	16	20	19	16	21 New Day	18	Saturday	16	20 18th Final Examinations	17	15	19	17	21 21st Final Program
Sunday	17	21	20	17	22 New Day	19	Sunday	17	21 18th Final Examinations	18	16	20	18	22 22nd Final Program
Monday	18	22	21	18	23 New Day	20	Monday	18	22 18th Final Examinations	19	17	21	19	23 23rd Final Program
Tuesday	19	23	22	19	24 New Day	21	Tuesday	19	23 18th Final Examinations	20	18	22	20	24 24th Final Program
Wednesday	20	24	23	20	25 New Day	22	Wednesday	20	24 18th Final Examinations	21	19	23	21	25 25th Final Program
Thursday	21	25	24	21	26 New Day	23	Thursday	21	25 18th Final Examinations	22	20	24	22	26 26th Final Program
Friday	22	26	25	22	27 New Day	24	Friday	22	26 18th Final Examinations	23	21	25	23	27 27th Final Program
Saturday	23	27	26	23	28 New Day	25	Saturday	23	27 18th Final Examinations	24	22	26	24	28 28th Final Program
Sunday	24	28	27	24	29 New Day	26	Sunday	24	28 18th Final Examinations	25	23	27	25	29 29th Final Program
Monday	25	29	28	25	30 New Day	27	Monday	25	29 18th Final Examinations	26	24	28	26	30 30th Final Program
Tuesday	26		29	26	31 New Day	28	Tuesday	26	30 18th Final Examinations	27	25	29	27	31 31st Final Program
Wednesday	27		30	27		29	Wednesday	27	31 18th Final Examinations	28	26	30	28	
Thursday	28		31			30	Thursday	28		29	27	29		
Friday	29			29			Friday	29		30	28	30		
Saturday	30			30			Saturday	30		31	29	31		

* All dates are subject to change. Please refer to the official website for the latest updates.

Procurement Department



BRACU Procurement Department is committed to help achieve BRACU's mission, objectives and goals. The department now has six officials who are experienced and hardworking as well as extensively contributing to the smooth operation of the university's departments, schools and institutes. In the year 2016, they were committed to ensuring the procurement and delivery of the right goods and equipment at the right time and the right cost. The department knows the importance of an effective and value-driven team, which is why it believes in building relationships, maintaining professional integrity, and nurturing a cost-saving attitude into their daily work. In addition to that, two of the team members are also providing procurement support to BRAC Construction and BRAC Procurement in order to complete BRACU New Campus Project.

In 2016, the total purchase amount was 97.93 million takas, of which, purchase for BRACU amounted to 70,087,826 takas, purchase for James P Grant School of Public Health totalled 24,820,607 takas and purchase for BRAC Institute of Governance and Development was 3,018,339 takas.

Some key highlights of 2016 are as follows:

- procured goods, equipment and services by ensuring quality, safety, cost effectiveness, and timely delivery

- ensured competition among the suppliers and solicited participation of all qualified suppliers in the Invitation for Quotation process
- proposed changes in the current procurement policy to better suit the present situation
- complied with the procurement rules and regulation, faced minimal audit exceptions

Table-1:

Category-wise purchase (January- 2016
December-2016)

SL. No.	Category	Amount (In Taka)	Amount (In Millions)
1	Computer, UPS	15,915,026	15.92
2	Stationaries	8,473,406	8.47
3	Toner and Cartridge	7,955,186	7.96
4	Advertisement	10,502,413	10.50
5	Educational Equipment	3,493,049	3.49
6	Furniture & Fixture	8,462,820	8.46
7	Office Maintenance	2,882,989	2.88
8	Lab Accessories	5,261,410	5.26
9	Printing	6,864,220	6.86
10	Vehicle Repair and Maintenance	3,759,357	3.76
11	Electrical Goods	2,693,134	2.69
12	Vehicle	14,218,718	14.22
13	Miscellaneous	7,445,044	7.45
Total		97,926,772	97.93

Figure-1: Category-wise purchase (January- 2016 December- 2016)

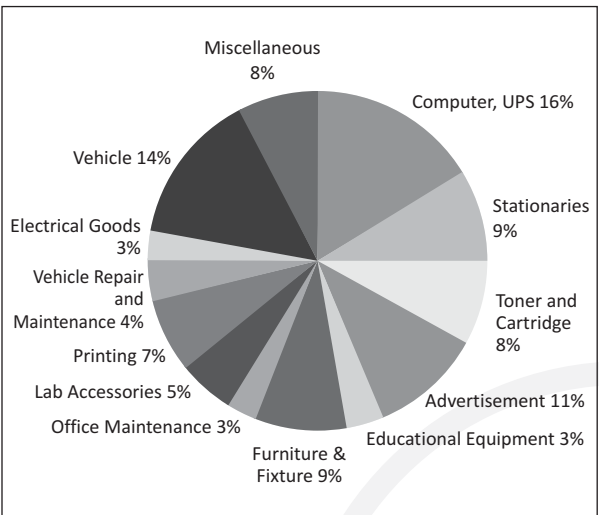
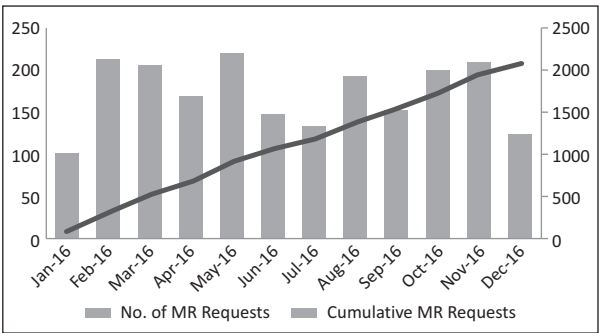


Figure-2: Number of material requisition requests received from different departments, institutes and schools (January- 2016 December- 2016)



Our first priority is the timely delivery of quality goods and materials, while maintaining procurement policies and professional integrity. We have continued and will continue to deliver excellence in what we do.



Relationship Management Office



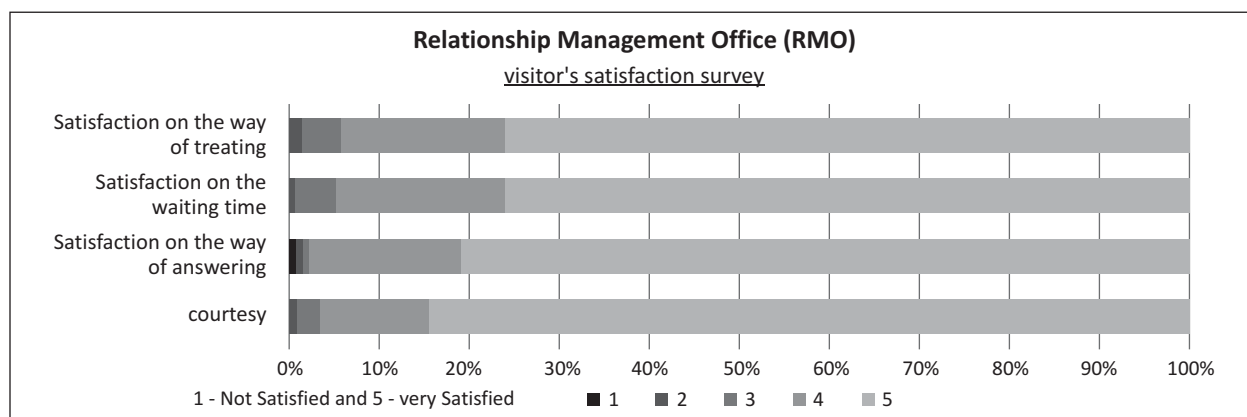
The Relationship Management Office (RMO), BRACU, facilitates student development with innovative programmes in which students and emerging scholars are mentored to realize their potential and assume roles of leadership, responsibility and service to the society. The RMO closely interacts with university management, administration, OSA and BRAC Head Office and is responsible for the tailored communication and presentation of BRACU for certain audiences. Its responsibilities also include the brand positioning of BRACU in the national and international ranking of universities.

They continue to be committed to maintain a campus environment that is conducive to the educational mission of the University. RMO also serves students better by continually improving freshman orientation.

The core responsibilities of RMO are:

- 1) managing the Central Information Desk
- 2) managing the BRACU Scholarships/Financial Aids programme
- 3) arranging jobs in BRACU for scholarship awardees
- 4) arranging the Freshman Orientation Programmes every semester
- 5) managing BRACU Female Students' Accommodation where 113 students reside
- 6) providing support services to international students. In 2016, 10 international students enrolled in the undergraduate programmes at BRACU
- 7) students who are reported to have engaged in behaviour that violates University Student Conduct Procedures are addressed through the student conduct process and encouraged to refrain from engaging in such behaviour again by means of a combination of educational, administrative and student conduct interventions. This year we assisted 14 students get involved with BRAC's Community Service programmes, which emphasize experiences that support students' search for how they will contribute to their communities and our global society
- 8) the RMO manages and works closely with student volunteers. The goal is to connect students who want to volunteer with opportunities on campus events that develop students' leadership skills, and help them to gain valuable service experience.

In 2016, RMO conducted a survey to evaluate how visitors felt about our services. A total of 153 visitors filled up the survey questionnaire.



BRACU Scholarships/Financial Aid Programmes

The RMO team supports the BRACU Scholarship Committee by providing data and information for raising funds for the scholarships, the application process, selection, supervision of the scholarship recipients and donors. In 2016, about seven hundred (700) Bangladeshi and international students of undergraduate and graduate degrees were fully or partially supported by 'BRACU Scholarship and Financial Aids' scheme.

The scholarship fund supports the investment of the advanced education of extremely bright and economically disadvantaged students.



Md. Rahmat Ullah is studying MBA and as a former homeless person, he "has a dream" to support refugees and the homeless, especially women and children, when he becomes a successful professional after graduating from BRACU. He also loves poetry and participates in poetry competitions in his free time. Because his family is exceptionally poor, Rahmat has also worked the entire time that he has been in school.

International Scholarship Recipients



"I extend my sincere heartfelt gratitude for the scholarship awarded to me. Engineering has been my dream from the age of eight. Having narrowly missed the government scholarship [in Uganda], I had no more hopes left for higher education. Thanks to God who restored my hopes

by bringing the BRAC University opportunity to me." Bukenya Henry

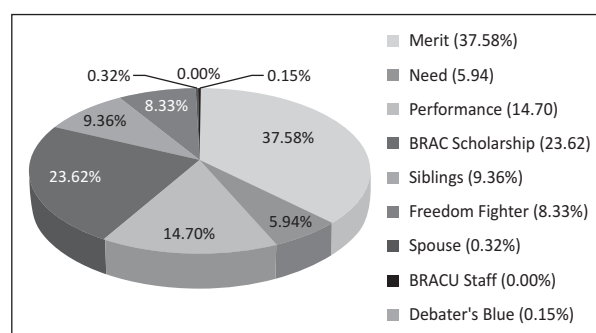
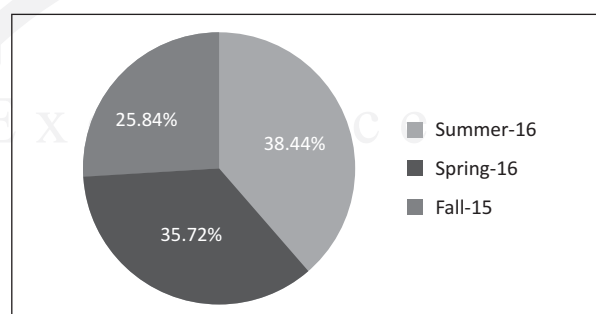
Bukenya is one of four children to a single mother who is a hairdresser. His siblings are still in school

and despite his excellent grades and extracurricular performance in secondary school, he would not have been able to study without this scholarship.

Scholarship Expenses

	30 June 2016 BDT	30 June 2015 BDT
Full Tuition Fee Waiver	36,816,542	19,579,463
Partial Tuition Fee Waiver	45,409,154	99,703,468
Full Tuition Fee Waiver from Ford Scholarship Endowment Fund	8,325,905	6,859,490
Scholarship from OSF	28,532,972	1,387,000
Scholarship from Porticus	4,809,500	268,000
	123,894,073	127,797,421

Scholarships/Financial Aid 2016:



Highlights from 2016 Activities



BRACU Freshman Orientation Programme, Summer 2016



A real time briefing session on "Women Empowerment" organized with Wedu (Investing in Women Leading the Change)



BRACU Freshman Orientation Program



BRAC USA representative meets with students



Parent's briefing session on Freshman Orientation Day



BRACU student participates in BRAC's community service programme



Welcoming the new international students Fall 2016



Foreign students celebrate Christmas day



A scholarship recipient shares flyers about BRACU scholarship programmes with the mothers of graduating secondary students.

Residential Semester



The Residential Semester (RS) at BRACU is a unique experience in university education in Bangladesh. All students are required to attend RS, usually after the completion of their first semester at the main campus. What makes the programme exceptional is that for the first time students live in a communal atmosphere and function as a team. During this experience, not only do they take responsibility for their own learning and actions, but also support their peers and, at times, lead teams. Through interactive classes and planned activities, they develop the collaborative and leadership skills needed to reach their goals. The curriculum, which was designed by a group of educational experts, includes English, Bangladesh Studies and Ethics and Culture. These classes help the students become global citizens, with an awareness of the needs of their country, their communities and their fellow students. Consequently, RS students are expected to achieve the following objectives:

- improve English language skills
- develop leadership skills and identify the ethical guidelines and responsibilities of a leader
- experience community living and develop the skills to live in harmony
- respect the many forms of diversity

- analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the country
- identify the social responsibilities of a good citizen of their country and community

Since its inception in 2003, a total of 11,120 students have completed RS. In 2016, a total of 1,323 students attended RS.

Semester	Male	Female	Total
Spring	107	193	300
Summer	312	191	513
Fall	321	199	520
Total	740	593	1,323

Courses and Activities

One of the major focuses of RS is to foster integration between academic and experiential learning. A range of Experiential Learning Activities (ELA) is offered to the students of RS and under the guidance and supervision of the instructors. The students take part in group work, presentations, simulations and self-discovery experiences. ELA includes Social Learning Lab, Lalbagh and Liberation War Museum visit, BRAC programme visit and a number of seminars and workshops that are extended units of the academic courses Ethics

and Culture, Bangladesh Studies and English. These unique experiences aim to facilitate the students in developing problem-solving and critical thinking skills that they can use in the real world.

Moreover, RS provides opportunities for the students to participate in sports, cultural activities, leadership-building activities and celebration of historical events. In 2016, programmes were organized at the Savar campus to celebrate International Mother Language Day (Ekushey February) and National Independence Day. The students, the faculty members and the administration officers all participated in these day-long programmes.

Every semester, the students of RS participate in the following activities:

Know the Country and Culture, Quiz Competition, Debate, Spelling Bee, Creative Writing, Presentation Skills, Script Writing & Film Making, Yoga and Meditation, Drawing and Sketching

In 2016, eight new activities were introduced in RS: *Baking, Old Home Visit, Sharing Happiness, Design for Change, Dance, Ikebana, Chess, Basics of Robotics and Animated Film Making*. Moreover, in 2016, students had to read at least one English novel during the semester. The books were taken from the large collection of English works that are available at the Savar campus library. This practice aims to encourage students to develop the habit of reading English books.

Seminar and Workshops:

There are a number of mandatory seminars and workshops that are organized for all the students. These seminars and workshops are conducted by experts in their respective fields and allow students to listen to and converse with experts who can help them gather valuable advice and knowledge from the real world.

The workshops and seminars that were reprised in 2016 were: "Seminar on Drug Abuse", "Story of BRAC", "Social Emotional Evening: An Evening with a Freedom Fighter", "Economic Development: Its Achievements and Challenges" and "Public Health Seminar".

Highlights

Some new sessions and seminars were introduced in 2016, including "Session on Environment, Development and Governance", "Session on Diversity and Inclusion", "Drama on Court Martial".

Economic Development and its Achievement and Challenges

As part of the Bangladesh Studies course the purpose of this session was to inform students about the achievements of Bangladesh since 1971, and to inspire them to think of the progress of the country along with Bangladesh's progress on the Millennium Development Goals. Professor Syed M. Hashemi, Former Director of BRAC Development Institute, facilitated the session. As a follow up to this session, groups of students were assigned to do an in-depth research study to understand the progress of the nation. Topics of the study included health, education, income and employment, agriculture, industry, gender and the role of NGOs. The student groups then prepared a presentation based on the information.

Planning for Your Future

In 2016, the "Planning for your Future" session was added to the usual set of sessions held every semester. The session was facilitated by Sayed Taher Ahmed, Director and Consultant, Learning and Development of Enroute Career Development Center. All the RS students keenly participated in the session. The main objectives of this session were to create awareness among students about the challenges after graduation, change their mindset to think and be positive and start preparing for the next stage of their lives.

Drama on Court Martial

As part of Ethics and Culture course, a drama named 'Court Martial' was staged by the theatre group 'Theater Art Unit' at BRACU Savar Campus.

The objective of the drama was to make students realize the idea of class distinction and how it still exists in different forms in the society. The performance highlighted the fact that truth is not always what we see and hear, it can be more than that. The drama further portrayed that punishment on the basis of law is not necessarily ethical all the time. It ended with the implied message that we should think twice before judging any incident. In other words, we should seek the truth.

Seminar on Diversity

A session on "Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness" was organized at the BRACU Savar campus for the students of RS in 2016. Mr. Shabbir Ahmed, DGM, HRM, BRAC and a BRAC official from BRAC Learning Centre conducted the session. The objective of the session was to familiarize students with the concept of diversity and inclusion and the importance of acquiring

knowledge about these issues and inculcating practices that would enable students to establish a nurturing community, where everyone will have an equal opportunity to fulfill their potential. Through this session, students were exposed to the current essential components of global society that will equip them with the knowledge of good practices for everyday life.

National Memorial Cleanup Programme

A 'clean-up' activity, initiated during the 2016 semesters, took place at the National Martyrs

Memorial, Savar. Mr. Ivan Shafaat Bari, Director, OCSAR, BRACU, inaugurated the programme. A total of 60 students participated in the programme to clean up the surroundings of the memorial site. Students were divided into five groups, and they worked at five different locations of the National Memorial. The main objective of the event was to enhance the spirit of patriotism among the students and to make them realize the dignity and sacrifices made by the people who struggled to bring about the independence.

Major Events



RS Cultural Programme



Celebrating "Pohela Falgun"



National Memorial Clean-up Programme



Session on "Economic Development and its Challenges"



Social Learning Lab (SLL)



Playing Handball



Session on "Planning for your Future"



Observing 21st February in Residential Campus



RS Drama 2016

Partners in Education

Over the years, BRACU 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 (BBS)

- 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 (JPGSPH) Bangladesh

National

- BRAC
- icddr,b
- BRAC University
- National Institute of Mental Health
- University of Dhaka

International

- WHO TDR (including universities under the TDR scheme)
- Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- Department of Public Health, University of Zambia, Zambia
- Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
- National School of Public Health Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia
- School of Public Health, University of Ghana, Ghana
- School of Public Health, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

North America

- Centre for Communication Programme (CCP), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA
- City University of New York, USA
- Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University, USA
- Result for Development Institute, USA
- School of Medicine, Stanford University, USA
- The World Bank, USA

Europe

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK
- University of Heidelberg, Germany
- University of Dundee, UK

Asia

- Hanoi School of Public Health, Vietnam
- Public Health Foundation of India, India
- RTI International, India
- School of International Health, Nagasaki University, Japan

BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED)

- Bank Street College of Education, New York, USA
- BRAC Education Programme (BEP)
- Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE)
- Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH)
- Columbia University, New York, USA
- Department for International Development (DFID)
- Directorate of Primary Education (DPE), Bangladesh
- Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN)
- George Washington University, USA
- Institute of Education & Research (IER), Dhaka University
- LEGO Foundation, Denmark
- National Curriculum & Textbook Board (NCTB), Bangladesh
- Phulki, Bangladesh
- National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi
- Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands
- Teach for Bangladesh
- Underprivileged Children's Education Programme (UCEP)
- Unite for Body Rights Alliance
- The World Bank, USA
- Aga Khan Foundation, Canada
- Center for British Teacher (CfBT)
- Portland State University, USA
- University of Massachusetts, USA
- University of Sussex, UK
- Open Society Institute, London
- Victoria University, Canada

- Yale University, USA
- James P. Grant School of Public Health
- NUFFIC, Netherlands

School of Law

- BRAC Agricultural Research and Development Centre (BRAC ARDC), Gazipur, Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC)
- International Centre for Diarrhoea Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b)
- University of Dhaka, Bangladesh (DU)
- Institute for Developing Science and Health Initiatives (ideSHi)
- The National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)
- Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), Grenoble, France
- Bangladesh University of Health Science (BUHS)
- Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR)
- Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM) Dhaka, Bangladesh

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)

- European Union (EU)
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI), USAID
- German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
- Help Age International
- International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW)
- School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Development Institute, Korea
- Lahore University of Management, Pakistan
- MasterCard Foundation
- Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs, Bangladesh
- Natural Resource Institute, University of Manitoba, Canada
- Save the Children, UK (SCUK)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- University of Bath, UK
- VU University Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Woman in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising (WIEGO)
- Care Bangladesh

Department of Architecture (ARC)

- University of Manchester
- Lancaster University
- University of Illinois, Chicago
- EMMA Asia (Erasmus Mundus Mobility with Asia)
- AGA Khan Cultural Trust
- British Council
- Loughborough University
- Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements

Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

- Kyushu Institute of Technology
- TechShopBD
- EATL
- University of Ulsan, Korea

Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)

- Electrical Engineering Department, Frederick University, Cyprus
- Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, BRAC University, Bangladesh
- Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, United International University, Bangladesh
- Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, (BUET) Bangladesh
- School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan
- School of Engineering, Kathmandu University, Nepal
- School of Engineering, Bangkok University, Thailand
- Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Malaya, Malaysia
- Department of Electronic and Information, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, Dortmund University of Technology, Germany
- Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering, University of Limerick, Ireland
- College of Science and Technology, Royal University of Bhutan
- School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, City University London
- Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia

- Department of Electronic Engineering, Southeast University, China

Department of English and Humanities (ENH)

- Umea University, Sweden
- Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Consortium

Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS)

- BRAC ARDC, Gazipur, Bangladesh
- BIRDEM, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- CNRS, CEA, Grenoble, France
- icddr,b, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- BCSIR
- Bangladesh University of Health Science (BUHS)
- idesHi
- BAEC

Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)

- James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRACU
- BRAC
- Oxfam
- WaterAid
- Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS)

- Institute of Water Modelling (IWM)
- Nature Conservation Management (NACOM)
- University of Dundee, UK
- Institute of Social and Environmental Transition (ISET), India
- Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB)
- Christian Aid
- ActionAid
- Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)
- International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), IUB
- Institute of Water and Flood Management (IWFM), BUET
- International Water Association (IWA)

Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED)

- Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI)
- University of Oklahoma, USA
- University of Southern Queensland (USQ), Australia
- Department of State, USA
- American Centre, Bangladesh
- C&A Foundation
- British Council, Bangladesh
- Tufts University, USA

Inspiring Excellence

COMMITTEES

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee advises the Syndicate and BoT on all financial matters; both operational and strategic. The Committee also formulates the Annual Budget, Annual Financial Statements and any other financial proposals of the University and refers to the BoT, through the Syndicate, for approval.

Chairperson

Ms. Tamara Hasan Abed
Senior Director, Enterprises
BRAC

Members

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Mr. Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar
Treasurer
BRAC University

Mr. Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury
Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of
Bangladesh
Former Secretary, Government of
Bangladesh and
Former Executive Director, BRAC

Mr. S. N. Kairy
Chief Financial Officer
BRAC and BRAC International

Professor Salehuddin Ahmed, Ph.D.
BRAC Business School
BRAC University

Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman
Executive Director
BRAC Institute of Governance and Development

Advocate Sultana Kamal
Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of
Bangladesh

Mr. Monojit Kumar Ojha, FCA
Director, Finance
BRAC University

Meetings

Three meetings of the Finance Committee took place on March 07, June 05 and December 21, 2016.

Faculty Selection Committee

The Faculty Selection Committee shall review all applications for faculty appointments, interview the applicants and recommend the appointments of all faculty members.

Chairperson

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor

BRAC University

Members

Professor Fuad Hassan Mallick, Ph.D.

Pro-Vice Chancellor and

Chairperson, Department of Architecture

BRAC University

Professor Anisuzzaman, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Dhaka University

Member, Board of Trustees & Syndicate

BRAC University

Mr. Faruq Ahmad Choudhury

Chairman

Delta BRAC Housing

Member, Board of Trustees & Syndicate

BRAC University

Professor Dilara Chowdhury, Ph.D.

Former Professor

Department of Government and Politics

Jahangir Nagar University

Head or Chairperson of the concerned Institute/School/Department

One External Member for Concerned Institute/School/Department

Meetings

Four meetings of the Faculty Selection Committee took place on 13 April, 19 June, 26 July and 24 October 2016.

Inspiring Excellence

Disciplinary Committee

The Disciplinary Committee is charged with ensuring student discipline in all fields of university activities; both academic and non-academic. The committee reviews all discipline cases referred to it and recommends appropriate administrative actions against the violators of discipline and reviews broader policy implications of these cases.

Chairperson

Mr. Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury

Former Advisor, Caretaker Government of Bangladesh
Former Secretary, Government of Bangladesh and
Former Executive Director, BRAC

Members

Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor
BRAC University

Professor A. A. Ziauddin Ahmad

Chairperson
Department of Mathematics and Natural
Sciences
BRAC University

Professor Rahim B. Talukder, Ph.D.

Adviser
BRAC Business School
BRAC University

Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed

Director
BRAC Institute of Languages
BRAC University

Muhammad Sahool Afzal

Major General (Retired)
Registrar
BRAC University

Ms. Amina Hasan Abedin

Assistant Professor
Department of Electrical and Electronic
Engineering
BRAC University

Co-opted member

Ms. Nazmus Sabeka

Senior Assistant Registrar
Office of the Registrar
BRAC University

Member Secretary

Samia Huq, Ph.D.

Proctor
BRAC University

Meetings

Four meetings of the Disciplinary Committee took place on 1 February, 28 April, 23 August and 22 September, 2016.

Auditor's Report

S F AHMED & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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sfali@connectbd.com
ahmeds@bol-online.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of BRAC University

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of BRAC University ("the University") which comprise the balance sheet as at June 30, 2016, income and expenditure statement and statement of changes in fund and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management of BRAC University is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the accounting policies summarized in note 2 & 3 of the financial statements and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the presentation 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 International Standards on Auditing as adopted in Bangladesh. 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 statements 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 made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of BRAC University as of June 30, 2016, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting policies summarized in note 2 & 3 of the financial statements.



Dated, Dhaka
29 December 2016


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


BRAC University
Balance Sheet
as at 30 June 2016

University Grant Commission (UGC) prescribed form ref. PUFR-III (A)

Particulars	Notes No.	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
		BDT	BDT
ASSETS:			
Fixed Assets	4	3,830,693,239	3,451,166,920
Long Term Investment	5	95,000,000	95,000,000
Current assets	6	2,060,166,635	1,885,604,875
Current liabilities	7	826,949,272	750,375,578
Net Current Assets		1,233,217,362	1,135,229,297
FUND EMPLOYED		5,158,910,602	4,681,396,218
FINANCED BY:			
Reserve fund	8	50,000,000	50,000,000
General fund	9	104,918,161	68,062,056
Special fund	10	4,183,360,949	3,892,210,518
Accumulated depreciation fund	11	441,889,934	377,560,725
Total Fund		4,780,169,044	4,387,833,299
Long term liabilities	12	160,548,754	109,082,917
Deferred liabilities	13	218,192,804	184,480,002
Total Liabilities		378,741,558	293,562,919
FINANCED BY		5,158,910,602	4,681,396,218

The annexed notes form an integral part of this statement.



Treasurer


Member of Board of Trustees



Dated, Dhaka
29 December 2016


Chairperson of Board of Trustees


S. F. Ahmed & Co.
Chartered Accountants

BRAC University
Income & Expenditure Statement
for the year ended 30 June 2016

University Grant Commission (UGC) prescribed form ref. PUFR-III (B)

Particulars	Notes No.	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
		BDT	BDT
a) Income - Academic			
Admission income (sale of forms)	14	16,770,056	19,998,304
Academic income	15	1,314,027,803	1,218,874,514
Total Income (Academic)		1,330,797,860	1,238,872,817
b) Expenditure -Academic			
Academic expenses	16	943,574,733	903,065,584
Admission expenses	17	15,781,777	12,765,339
Academic research expenses	18	17,075,551	4,652,118
Publications expenses	19	1,782,935	1,746,800
Total Expenses (Academic)		978,214,996	922,229,841
c) Excess of Income over Expenses -Academic (a-b)		352,582,864	316,642,976
d) Income -Non Academic			
Non-academic income	20	597,661,782	633,193,971
e) Expenditure -Non Academic			
Non-academic expenses	21	281,343,151	262,829,228
Non-academic research expenses	22	443,418,444	515,646,682
Total Non Academic Expenses		724,761,595	778,475,910
f) Excess of Income over Expenses-Non-Academic(d-e)		(127,099,813)	(145,281,939)
g) Total Operating Income over Expenses (c+f)		225,483,051	171,361,038
h) Financial Income-Interest Income/Profit from Investment			
Interest income/Profit from investment	23	118,430,008	106,888,494
Less: Financial expenses	24	617,439	480,272
Excess of Financial Income over Expenses		117,812,570	106,408,222
i) Net Excess of Income over Expenses before Tax (g+h)		343,295,620	277,769,259
j) Income tax (with adjustment)	25	51,494,343	41,665,389
k) Net Excess of Income over Expenses after Tax (i-j)		291,801,277	236,103,870


The annexed notes form an integral part of this statement.


 Treasurer Member of Board of Trustees



Dated, Dhaka
 29 December 2016


 Chairperson of Board of Trustees


S. F. Ahmed & Co.
 Chartered Accountants

BRAC University
Statement of Changes in Fund
for the year ended 30 June 2016
 University Grant Commission (UGC) prescribed form ref. PUFR-III (C)

Particulars	Reserve Fund	General Fund	Special Fund	Total Amount (in Taka)
Balance as at 1 July 2014	50,000,000	56,958,186	3,524,290,037	3,631,248,223
Surplus of income over expenditure for the year		236,103,870	-	236,103,870
Fund/contribution received during the year	-	-	357,480,814	357,480,814
Interest income on fixed deposits	-	-	18,992,837	18,992,837
Payment/Transfer during the year	-	(225,000,000)	(8,553,170)	(233,553,170)
Balance as at 30 June 2015	50,000,000	68,062,056	3,892,210,518	4,010,272,574
Balance as at 01 July 2015	50,000,000	68,062,056	3,892,210,518	4,010,272,574
Surplus of income over expenditure for the year	-	291,801,277	-	291,801,277
Fund/contribution received during the year	-	20,054,828	309,868,635	329,923,463
Interest receivable on fixed deposits	-	-	23,092,350	23,092,350
Payment/Transfer during the year	-	(275,000,000)	(41,810,554)	(316,810,554)
Balance as at 30 June 2016	50,000,000	104,918,161	4,183,360,949	4,338,279,110



BRAC University
Cash Flow Statement (Indirect Method)
for the year ended 30 June 2016
University Grant Commission (UGC) prescribed form ref. PUFR-III(D)

Particulars	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
	BDT	BDT
a) Cash Flow from Operating Activities:		
Excess of income over expenses	314,971,056	245,219,598
Non cash expenses	139,144,219	279,299,559
Change of working capital	84,721,134	114,452,003
<i>Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities</i>	538,836,409	638,971,161
b) Cash Flow from Investing Activities:		
Purchase/Acquisition of fixed assets/ Investments	(486,607,424)	(867,327,225)
Less: Sale proceeds/Disposal of fixed assets/Investments	7,015,170	5,684,389
<i>Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities</i>	(479,592,254)	(861,642,836)
c) Cash Flow from Financing Activities:		
Increase of finance/Donated fund /Loan	74,172,708	144,538,759
Decrease of finance/Donated fund /Loan	-	-
<i>Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities</i>	74,172,708	144,538,759
Cash and cash equivalence surplus/(Deficit) for the year	133,416,863	(78,132,916)
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of the year	392,085,797	470,218,713
Cash and cash equivalent at the end of the year	525,502,660	392,085,797



List of Acronyms

Abbreviation	Elaboration	Abbreviation	Elaboration
AAA	Arcasia Awards for Architecture	BUCuC	BRAC University Cultural Club
AABRACU	Alumni Association of BRAC University	BUDTF	BRAC University Drama and Theater Forum
AAF	Australian Award Fellowship	BUEEF	BRAC University Earth and Environment Forum
ACE	Anti-Corruption Evidence Programme	BUET	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
ACEID	Asian Conference on Education & International Development	BUGMUN	BRAC University Global Model United Nations
ACHR	Asian Coalition for Housing Rights	BULS	BRAC University Law Society
ADB	Asian Development Bank	BUMA	BRAC University Marketing Association
ADP	Annual Development Programme	BUNSC	BRAC University Natural Sciences Club
AECD	Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka	C3ER	Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research
AERE	Atomic Energy Research Establishment	CAN	Community Architects Network
AFIP	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology	CDKN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network
AIA	American Institute of Architects	CED	Centre for Entrepreneurship Development
AOGS	Asia Oceania Geosciences Society	CETL	Centre of Excellence in Teaching and Learning
AoW	Academy of Work	CfPW	Center for Psychosocial Wellbeing
APUF	Asia Pacific Urban Forum	CGST	The Centre for Gender and Social Transformation
ARCASIA	Architects Regional Council of Asia	CHET	Certificate in Higher Education Teaching
Arch.KIDS	Architecture for Kids	CIPS	Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply
ASM	American Society of Microbiology	CARC	Control & Applications Research Centre
ASW	Academic Skills Workshop	CoP	Community of Practice
B.Sc.ECE	Bachelor of Science in Electronic and Communication Engineering	CPTU	Central Procurement Technical Unit
B.Sc.EEE	Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering	CRP	Centre of Rehabilitation for the Paralyzed
BAS	Bangladesh Academy of Sciences	CSE	Computer Science and Engineering
BASIS	Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services	CV	Curriculum Vitae
BBS	BRAC Business School	DALA	Developing Aspiration and Livelihood for Adolescents
BCC	Bangladesh Computer Council	DLI	Deep Learning Institute
BDITEC	Bangladesh IT Engineers Examination Council	DMCC	Disaster Management and Climate Change
BDOSN	Bangladesh Open Source Network	DoE	Department of Environment
BEN	Bangladesh Environment Network	DRFM-B	Digital RMG Factory Mapping in Bangladesh
BEP	BRAC Education Program	DSCSC	Defence Services Command and Staff College
BIED	BRAC Institute of Educational Development	EATL	Ethics Advanced Technology Limited
BIGD	BRAC Institute of Governance and Development	ECD	Early Childhood Development
BIL	BRAC Institute of Languages	EEE	Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
BILS	Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies	EG	Economic Growth
biTS	BRAC IT Services Limited	EMG	Environmental Management and Governance
BMS	Bangladesh Mathematical Society	EMMAAsia	Erasmus Mundus Mobility with Asia
BNH	Bangladesh National Herbarium	ESID	Effective States and Inclusive Development
BoT	Board of Trustees	ESS	Department of Economics & Social Sciences
BPC	Business Plan Competition	FCBU	Football Club BRAC University
BPS	Bangladesh Physical Society	FES	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
BRAC-CDM	BRAC Centre for Development Management	FYAT	First Year Advising Team
BRACU	BRAC University	GAGE	Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence
BTRC	Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission	GDLN	Global Development Learning Network
BUAC	BRAC University Adventure Club	GoB	Government of Bangladesh
BUAP	Art and Photography Society	GP	Governance and Politics
BUBEF	Business and Economics Forum	GPMS	Government Performance Management System
BUCC	BRAC University Computer Club	GS	Gender Studies
BUCHC	BRAC University Chess Club	HEQEP	Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project
BUCLC	BRAC University Communications and Language Club	HRD	Human Resources Department
		IABC	International Association of Business Communicators
		IAP	Inter Academy Partnership
		ICAEE	International Conference on Advances in Electrical Engineering

Abbreviation Elaboration

icddr,b	International Center for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh
ICLEI	International Conference on Language, Education and Innovation
ICTD	Information and Communication Technology Division
ICTL	International Conference on Teaching and Learning
IDCOL	Infrastructure Development Company Limited
IDRC	International Development Research Center
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
IEER	Institutional Enabling Environment Report
IFRB	Institute of Food and Radiation Biology
IGC	International Growth Centre
IIEGRA	Innovation for Improving Early Grade Reading Activity
INSPIRE	International Strategic Partnership in Research and Education
INTACT	It's Time for Collaboration TowARDS Close Cooperation
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IQAC	Institutional Quality Assurance Cell
ISHTEC	International Symposium on Heat Transfer and Energy Conservation
ISI	Indian Statistical Institute
ITEE	Information Technology Engineers Examination
ITPEC	Information Technology Professionals Examination Council
IUB	Independent University, Bangladesh
JAXA	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
Kyutech	Kyushu Institute of Technology
LAR	Local Assessment Report
LSE	London School of Economics
M.Engg.EEE	Master of Engineering in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
M.Sc.EEE	Master of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
MAGD	MA in Governance and Development
MDMP	Masters in Development Management and Practice
MDS	Master of Development Studies
MEd	Master of Education
MGA	Member and Geographic Activities
MNC	Multinational Corporations
MoPTIT	Ministry of Posts, Telecommunication and Information Technology
MOST	Ministry of Science and Technology
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPSM	Masters in Procurement and Supply Management
MSc	Master of Science
NACOM	Nature Conservation Management
NAED	Noman Award for Excellence in Design
NASA	The National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NCC	Narayanganj City Corporation
NCTB	National Curriculum and Textbook Board
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIB	National Institute of Biotechnology
NOAMI	National Oceanographic And Maritime Institute
NUMO	National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad

Abbreviation Elaboration

NUS	National University of Singapore
OCA	Office of Co-curricular Activities
OCSAR	Office of Career Services and Alumni Relations
OSA	Office of Student Affairs
OSM	Open Street Map
PASS	Probation Advising and Student Support
PDC	Professional Development Centre
PDF	Physically-challenged Development Foundation
PFMR	Participatory Factory Mapping Research
PGD	Post-Graduate Diploma
POCAA	Platform of Community Action and Architecture
PPRC	Power and Participation Research Center
PSDP	Professional Skills Development Program
PPSC	Public-Private Stakeholders Committee
PT	Peer Tutor
PTC&B	Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology
QA	Quality Assurance
QAC	Quality Assurance Committee
QAU	Quality Assurance Unit
RATB	Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary
RED	Research and Evaluation Division
RGKF	REX Karmaveer Global Fellowship
SABP	South Asia Biosafety Program
SA	Self-Assessment
SAC	Self-Assessment Committee
SAR	South Asian Region
SCC	Sylhet City Corporation
SCM	Stop Child Marriage
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SECS	School of Engineering and Computer Science
SEIP	Skills for Employment Investment Programme
SoC	State of Cities
SoG	State of Governance
SRHRG	Sexual, Reproductive Rights and Health & Gender
SSCOPE	Schooling, SRHR, Gender & Counseling for Adolescents of Post- Primary Education
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
TLC	Teaching and Learning Centre
ToT	Training of Trainers
TRI	Time Reverse Imaging
UCCE	Urban, Climate Change and Environment Cluster
UGC	University Grants Commission of Bangladesh
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USQ	University of Southern Queensland
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WC	Writing Centre
WWM	Workplace Wellbeing Management
YLD	Young Leader's Dialogue



Inspiring Excellence

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