

MES International Conference 2021 virtually held in Dhaka from March 2nd-4th in Honor of Bangladesh's 50th Anniversary of Independence

A three-day International Energy Conference under the title - Decentralized Electrification, Network Interconnection and Local Power Markets, was held from March 2nd-4th organized by the Graduate School of Management (GSM) of Brac University, jointly with Technical University Berlin (Germany) and Carnegie Mellon University (USA), and the academic peer-reviewed journal Energy & Environmental Policy.



The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Vincent Chang, VC & President Brac University, Prof. Dr. Christian Thomsen, President TU Berlin, Mrs. Barbel Hoehn, former Minister of State & Energy Commissioner for the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, and Dr. Valerie Karplus, Professor, Carnegie Mellon University. The opening session was moderated by Dr. Sebastian Groh, Associate Professor at the GSM of Brac University.

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Associate Professor Dr. Sebastian Groh Served as the facilitator and mentor in a virtual "Solveathon" hosted by FBCCI in partnership with MIT Solve



The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industries (FBCCI) in partnership with MIT Solve hosted a virtual "Solveathon" on Saturday, January 30 to generate and refine great ideas to Global Challenges. Solve is an initiative of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a mission to solve world challenges, such as

- Resilient Ecosystems: Preserving and strengthening ecosystems services, including carbon mitigation.
- Health Security and Pandemics: Protecting all people from health security threats and the impacts of disease outbreaks.
- Equitable Classrooms and Learning Spaces: Reimagining learning environments for the next generation.
- Digital Inclusion for Economic Justice: Ensuring equitable connectivity to access digital commerce and public services for everyone.

Solve is a marketplace for social impact innovation. Dr. Sebastian Groh from the GSM served as one of the mentors both during the Solveathon as well as the finals at the FBCCI where the best five teams pitched to a jury including. Mrs. Tamara Abed, the chairperson of Brac University as well as Mrs. Sonia Bashir Kabir, Member of the Board of Trustees.

Kri-Shop, the team mentored by Dr. Groh and including an undergraduate student from Brac University, Mr. Srijan Banik, is working on an Uber for urban gardening in Dhaka and convinced the jury and is no expecting an investment in its venture. The Kri-Shop team has further been accepted by the University's Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED).

Faculty Publications

Professor Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam

An article titled "Selective ruminations on the macro-economy" was published in Issue No. 167 of Market Pulse—a monthly journal of Lanka Bangla Securities.

Professor Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed

Book Chapter: Ahmed, Salehuddin. (2020). Policy Stances and Financial Sector Developments in Bangladesh. Chapter in a book titled "Bangladesh at 50: Development and Challenges". Narayan, S. & Datta, Sreeradha. Orient BlackSwan. <https://www.orientblackswan.com/details?id=9789390122523>

Associate Professor Dr. Suman Paul Chowdhury

A paper titled "Corporate governance and real earnings management: An empirical evidence on emerging economy" was published in the Corporate Ownership and Control (COC) journal. <https://virtusinterpress.org/Ownership-structure-and-real-earnings-management-An-empirical-study-on-emerging-economy.html>

Faculty Promotion

Graduate School of Management (GSM) is delighted to announce that, Dr. Suman Paul Chowdhury and Dr. Sharmila Shabnam Rahman have been promoted to Associate Professor of GSM.



Dr. Suman Paul Chowdhury joined BRAC University family in 2006. He has earned his Ph.D. from The University of Western Australia (UWA), Australia, in 2015, having awarded by the Scope Global (Endeavour Postgraduate Award 2011), formerly traded as Austraining International. Apart from teaching, Dr. Chowdhury served the BRAC University Registrar's Office as Joint Registrar (November 2019 to September 2020). Principal-agent relationship, corporate governance, corporate reporting, executive remuneration, capital structure, family firm, and earnings management are the areas of his research interest. His articles have been published in numerous peer-reviewed top-ranked international journals and conferences.



Dr. Shabnam completed her Ph.D. from Alliance Manchester Business School, University of Manchester, UK. Her PhD work was on "Accountability of Global Fashion Industry Supply Chains which looked into the post Rana Plaza regulatory Initiatives in the Ready Garments Sector of Bangladesh". Her current research is on "The Regulation of International Supply Chains (RISC): Lessons from the Governance of Occupational Health and Safety in the Bangladesh Ready-Made Garment Industry" funded by Danida Fellowship Center- part of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The research partners are Copenhagen Business School, Denmark; Tufts University, USA; Danish Ethical Trading Initiative and BRAC University, Bangladesh. We are truly fortunate to have such dedicated scholars as our colleagues.

Please join us in congratulating both on their promotions to the rank of Associate Professor. We wish both Dr. Suman and Dr. Shabnam all the best in their future endeavors.

GSM Welcomes New Faculty



GSM is pleased to welcome a new faculty, Assistant Professor Dr. Sayem Hossain. Sayem has 17 years of work experience holding visiting academic positions and professional work experience from Bangladesh and Australia. Most recently, Sayem served within Australian state government departments as a consultant in the educational policy and student well-being areas. Prior to consultancy experience, Sayem worked with several Australian universities: UNSW, SCU, and U Canberra where he received the Dean's Excellence Award for Innovative Teaching and Learning and a second for Outstanding Academic Leadership. At GSM Sayem is tasked with alumni outreach alongside his teaching and research. We look forward to working with our new colleague in research areas of Social Entrepreneurship, Sustainability, Marketing Analytics and Innovation.

GSM Virtual Alumni Meetup



GSM is keen to build nourishing alumni relations that will foster a prospective network, and create opportunities for our current students. To achieve this vision, we are working to maintain our connections with alumni through various initiatives. One such initiative will be a virtual Alumni meetup session to connect with some of our accomplished alumni to reflect on a very important and contemporary topic - "Importance of life-long learning for continuous professional growth".

Our invited guest alumni in this online session are –

Ms. Farah Sharmeen Aolad
Country head, PACS, Coca-Cola, Bangladesh.

Mr. Shahreer Zamil
Vice President & Head of Remittance, BRAC Bank.

Event details:

Date: Monday, 12 April, 2021
Time: 4.00 PM - 5.30 PM
Event Link: <http://3dmNaHE>

Watch live on Brac U & Brac GSM Facebook pages:
<https://www.facebook.com/gsm.bracu>
<https://www.facebook.com/BRACUniversity/>

MBA/EMBA Admissions Open

Graduate School of Management announces its next Summer 2021 admissions opening for the MBA and EMBA Programs and is inviting applications from the prospective eligible candidates.

Apply online:

MBA - <http://admissions.bracu.ac.bd/academia/>

Application Deadline: 20th April, 2021

Online Admission Test: 23rd April, 2021 (Friday)

Program Details: <https://www.bracu.ac.bd/academics/institutes-and-schools/brac-business-school/master-business-administration>

Executive MBA - <http://admissions.bracu.ac.bd/academia/>

Application Deadline: 20th April, 2021

Online Admission Test: 23rd April, 2021 (Friday)

Program Details: <https://www.bracu.ac.bd/academics/institutes-and-schools/brac-business-school/executive-mba>

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