



# UGC BULLETIN

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## DU Confers Honorary Doctor of Laws on President Abdullah Gul



*Hon'ble President Md. Zillur Rahman handing over the certificate of Honorary Doctor of Laws to the Hon'ble President of Turkey Abdullah Gul*

The University of Dhaka conferred honorary Doctor of Laws degree on visiting Turkish President Abdullah Gul at a special convocation on February 13, 2010. The Hon'ble President of Bangladesh Md. Zillur Rahman, who is also the Chancellor of the University, conferred the degree on his Turkish counterpart. Dr. Abdullah Gul also spoke as the convocation speaker. Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique and Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid also addressed the function.

President Md. Zillur Rahman in his speech congratulated Dr. Abdullah Gul and said, "Your visit to this university, I believe, will open a new horizon in exchanging educational and cultural programs between the two countries. In this connection, I would like to mention that the people of two brotherly countries have always shared common history, values, traditions, faith and culture. I am confident that this fraternal relation would be further strengthened and deepened through your visit."

The Turkish President in his speech expressed his pleasure to receive the Honorary Doctorate Degree. He said, "In the global community of nations, Turkey and Bangladesh have full confidence in each other. I believe that our countries, based on this strong foundation, will continue to expand our cooperation." Addressing the students the Turkish President said, "You, the students here are the ones who will realize the bright future of Bangladesh. You are the hope and pride not only of your parents but also of your nation." He said, "I am convinced that with the outstanding education that you are receiving at this esteemed center of learning and wisdom, you will be ready to capture your dreams."

## 3rd International Conference on Bangladesh Environment held

The two-day 3rd International Conference on Bangladesh Environment (ICBEN) organized by Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (BAPA) and Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN) was held in Dhaka during January 3-4, 2010. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the Conference at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium. State Minister for Environment and Forests Dr. Hasan Mahmud and Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique were the Special Guests on the occasion while Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) Chairman Professor Mozaffar Ahmed presided over the program. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh and also a Vice-President of BAPA was the Chief Coordinator of the Conference.



*Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina delivering speech at the inaugural session of 3rd International Conference on Bangladesh Environment*

Sheikh Hasina in her inaugural speech said her government was determined to protect the country's environment "at any cost". She called upon all concerned to come forward with pragmatic initiatives along with the government to protect the country's environment and to leave a healthy and prosperous future for the new generation.

Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC in his welcome address emphasized on raising social awareness and on protecting the environment of our country as well as of the world. He also informed that steps have been taken in this conference to share scientific knowledge on environment and that 22 public and private universities of the country were participating in the conference. The inaugural function was also addressed by the Vice-President of BAPA and



*A procession brought out on the occasion of 3rd International Conference on Bangladesh Environment*

representative of BEN Dr. Nazrul Islam and General Secretary of BEN Dr. MA Matin. Ministers, Advisers to the Prime Minister, diplomats, environmentalists, academics and high government officials were also present on the occasion.

### **Education Minister meets Vice-Chancellors of public universities**

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, MP met the Vice-Chancellors of different public universities and the Chairman of University Grants Commission and discussed improving standard of university education on March 23, 2010 at the Ministry of Education.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, University Parishad Chairman Professor Pran Gopal Datta, Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, National University Vice-Chancellor Professor Quazi Shahidullah, BUET Vice-Chancellor Professor A M M Shafiullah, BAU Vice-Chancellor Professor MA Sattar Mandal, Chittagong University Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Abu Yusuf, Additional Secretary of the Education Ministry Sirajul Islam, among others were present at the discussion.

After the dialogue the Minister addressed a press conference. He said government would not tolerate any kind of anarchy in the public universities. "Those who create disorder and hamper peaceful environment in the universities in the guise of studentship will be resisted with iron hand," he added.

The Minister also urged the law enforcement agencies to be alert and active in tackling criminal activities in the universities.

He stressed on the need for motivation of students and teachers to ensure peace and discipline beside research and library work in the universities.

The government would also take measures to ease the admission process of the universities, the minister said. He added that the role of UGC would be strengthened further.

### **UGC delegation visits UK under the INSPIRE Program**

A five-member Bangladeshi delegation led by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh Professor Nazrul Islam visited United Kingdom during March 14-20, 2010 to attend the International Strategic Partnership

in Research and Education (INSPIRE) Leadership Program, organized by the British Council. Other members of the delegation were UGC Member Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University Professor Dr. Abu Yusuf, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University Professor Dr. M A Sattar Mandal and Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Education Mr. Md. Nurul Islam.

Director of British Council Bangladesh Mr. Charles Nuttall and the head of Culture, Climate and Citizenship of British Council Syed Masud Hossain also joined the team in London.

During the visit the delegation took part in a number of sessions and discussed various issues like leadership foundation, quality assurance etc. related to strengthening of the higher education system.

On March 15, 2010, the delegation took part in discussion with Mr. David Lock, Director, International Projects, The Leadership Foundation for Higher Education and Mr. Ewart Wooldridge, Chief Executive of the Foundation.

On March 16, 2010 the delegation participated in a discussion with Mr. John Tarrant, Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities and Mr. David Lock on the issues of leadership development options. During



*Visiting UGC delegation in front of the British Council in UK*

the discussion, the team briefed the British counterpart on the progress of higher education reforms in Bangladesh and the World Bank Project (HEQEP). Later on, Mr. Aaron Porter, Vice President, National Union of Students–Higher Education briefed the delegation on the National Union of Students and Constructive Student Involvement in the UK.

The delegation participated in a day-long workshop on March 17, 2010 with Mr. Carolyn Campbell, Head of International Affairs, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. The workshop focused on the issues like international trends in quality assurance and accreditation, current approaches to quality assurance and enhancement in the UK and future policy dialogue event to be held in Bangladesh.

On March 18, 2010 the team visited the Slade School of Fine Art, University College, London and met Professor John Aiken, Director and Professor of Slade. Later they met Professor Vincent Emery, Pro-Provost, South East Asia and Middle East, University College, London and discussed the management and leadership issues in higher education. The team received a conducted tour of studios and workshops of Slade, with whom Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University has a joint research program under INSPIRE.



*UGC delegation taking part in a discussion during the UK visit*

The delegation also took part in a Video Conference at British Council, London on March 19, 2010 with Dr. Ataur Rahman Belal, Lecturer, Finance, Accounting and Law Group, Aston University on a research project on climate change and disaster management, in collaboration with Dhaka University.

### **SERENE Study Tour held in Vietnam, Thailand and Sri Lanka**

As part of the South-South Exchange of Research and Education Network Experience (SERENE) program administered by World Bank a six-member delegation headed by UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam visited Vietnam, Thailand and Sri Lanka from 24 January to 3 February 2010. Other members of the team were Mr. Syed Ataur Rahman, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque and Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Members of UGC, Professor Dr. MMA Hashem and Md. Yousuf Niaz, Consultants of HEQEP.



*Visiting UGC delegation in a photo session with other participants in front of Hanoi University, Vietnam*

The objective of the study tour was to gather and share experience and knowledge from similar activities of National Research and Education Network (NREN) in those countries. The tour was also attended by delegates from three other countries – Afghanistan, Nepal and Bhutan.

The team visited all the NRENs operating centers of Vietnam, Thailand and Sri Lanka and other institutions like universities, hospitals and medical colleges, disaster management and weather forecasting departments etc. where applications of NREN were displayed.

### **Seminar held at UGC marking the Mother Language Day**

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh organized a seminar on “Use of Bangla Language at University Level” on February 18, 2010 marking the celebration of International Mother Language Day and Great Martyred Day. Eminent scholar Professor Rafiqul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, attended the program as the Chief Guest while UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam presided over the function.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly delivered the address of welcome while Professor Abdul Khaleq, former Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University presented the keynote paper on the occasion. Professor Shafi Ahmed



*Professor Rafiqul Islam speaking at the seminar on ‘Use of Bangla Language at University Level’ organized by UGC*

(Jahangirnagar University), Professor AHM Abdul Baki (Dhaka University), Professor Shanjida Akhter (North South University) and Professor Akimun Rahman (Independent University) were present as the discussants of the keynote paper. UGC Members Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque, Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum were also present on the occasion. UGC Secretary Mr. Md. Khaled delivered the vote of thanks.



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, Professor Rafiqul Islam and Professor Abdul Khaleq (from right to left) posing with the singers of Music Department of Dhaka University*

Teachers and students of the Department of Music, University of Dhaka performed the inaugural song. Vice-Chancellors of different universities, eminent educationists, UGC officers and employees were present at the seminar.

## 39th Founding Anniversary of Jahangirnagar University observed

Jahangirnagar University (JU) Day, commemorating the 39th founding anniversary of the University was observed amidst festivity at the campus on January 12, 2010.

Advisor (Education, Social Welfare and Political Affairs) to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and former Vice-Chancellor of JU Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed inaugurated the day-long program as the Chief Guest by hoisting national and



Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed releasing balloons at Jahangirnagar University on the occasion of its 39th Founding Anniversary

university flags and releasing balloons at the social science faculty premises along with Special Guests of the program UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam and Vice-Chancellor of the University Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir.

Later, a colorful procession equipped with festoons, banners and placards was brought out to mark the day. Former and present teachers, students and officials attended the procession. A discussion meeting and a cultural program were also held at JU Mukto Mancho as part of the celebration.

## UGC to provide cooperation to DU for maintaining Shaheed Minar

The University Grants Commission (UGC) will provide cooperation to Dhaka University, if it takes measures in maintaining and protecting the Central Shaheed Minar.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam told at a press conference on 'Maintenance and Security of Central Shaheed Minar' organized by the UGC on March 11, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim and Secretary Md. Khaled, among others, were present at the press conference.

Professor Nazrul Islam mentioned about a number of such national sites like Shaheed Minar, Mausoleums of three national leaders, Oporajeyo Bangla, Swoparjita Swadhinata, Madhur Canteen, DUCSU Sanggrahashala. Mazars of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, Shilpachraya Joyrul Abedin and artist Quamrul Hasan, Abul Barkat Smriti Jadughar on the DU campus.

The UGC Chairman has already written a letter to the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University expressing interest to support initiatives from this university with regard to proper maintenance of the Central Shaheed Minar.

## Eminent Canadian Professor Dr. Md. Azizur Rahman visits UGC

Eminent scientist Professor Dr. Md. Azizur Rahman said university is the breeding ground for scholars. "Proper research environment does not exist without achieving extensive knowledge on language, science, literature, culture, history and geography", he added.

Dr. Rahman, University Research Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada took part in a dialogue with the UGC authority on March 8, 2010. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, Members – Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque, Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum were present on the occasion.

A Bangladeshi by-birth, power-system specialist Professor Azizur Rahman also said UGC should take initiatives to develop interpersonal relations with different universities at home and abroad for enhancing the quality of higher education in Bangladesh.

UGC Chairman in the dialogue presented the prospect of higher education of the country and initiatives taken so far by the Commission in that regard. He informed Professor Azizur Rahman that to face the challenges of 21st century and to



Professor Dr. Md. Azizur Rahman exchanging views with UGC authority

build up a digital Bangladesh UGC has taken a Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) with the financial help of the World Bank.

Among others UGC Professor Dr. Nuruddin Ahmed, Dhaka University Professors Dr. Rabbani, Dr. M. Shahidul Islam and Dr. AQM Mahbub, and high officials of UGC were present.

## UGC and PGCB signed MoU to set up BdREN

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has taken initiative to establish Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) with a view to expand high speed internet network among the universities and higher education research centers of the country. In this regard UGC and Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited (PGCB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on March 25, 2010 to lease optical fiber connectivity at the UGC auditorium.

UGC Secretary Md. Khaled and Company Secretary of PGCB Md. Ashraf Hossain signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul



*UGC Secretary Md. Khaled & PGCB Company Secretary Md. Ashraf Hossain shaking hands after signing of MoU*

Islam, Members Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque and Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, PGCB Director Rafiqul Alam, GM Mohammad Salim and other officers were present at the ceremony.

With the help of establishing this internet network exchange of information, long distant education, digital library, video conferencing etc. will easily be possible in the country specially in higher education arena.

### **International Conference on Bioethics held at UGC**

A two-day long International Conference on 'Progressing Bioethics in Bangladesh for the Future' was inaugurated on March 15, 2010 at the University Grants Commission (UGC) Auditorium. The conference was organized by the Bangladesh Bioethics Society (BBS) in collaboration with UNESCO Bangkok, UNESCO Dhaka and UGC.

Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University was present as the Chief Guest at the inaugural session of the conference while UGC Member Professor Dr. Amena Begum delivered the welcome-address.

In his speech Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique said cultural, ethical and spiritual values of any society should be the central determinants in shaping technologies and sciences to progress in a more just, equitable and sustainable



*Guests are seen at the International Conference on Bioethics held at UGC*

direction. He drew attention of UGC authority to play a vital role in this regard.

Dr. Darryl Macer, Regional Advisor, UNESCO Bangkok and Dr. Malama Meleisea, Director, UNESCO Dhaka were present as the Special Guests with Professor Dr. Taslima Monsoor, President, BBS in the chair. UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, UGC Secretary Mr. Md. Khaled and all divisional heads of UGC were also present on the occasion.

Professor Shamima Pervin Lasker, General Secretary, BBS presented the half-yearly report and the report of working group of BBS while Dr. Md. Amirul Hassan, Associate Professor, NIPSOM delivered the vote of thanks. Around 60 foreign and local participants from various disciplines took part at the conference.

### **Foreign delegates called on UGC Member**

An eight-member delegation from University of Pennsylvania (Upenn) and Indiana University called on Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Member, UGC on January 17, 2010 at the latter's office.

They discussed the present situation and opportunity of higher education especially in the field of medical science in Bangladesh. The delegation included Professor Brian L. Storm, Professor Glen N. Gaulton, Professor Robert H. Choplin, Marjorie Bowman, Joseph S. Sun and Valerie F. Malter. Grameen Kalyan of Bangladesh arranged the meeting.

### **UGC Full Commission Meeting**



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam speaking at a Full Commission Meeting*

Two meetings of UGC Full Commission were held on January 20, 2010 and February 28, 2010. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam chaired both the meetings while all Full- and Part-time members of the Commission were present. Full Commission is the body that takes and approves all the important decisions of UGC.

### **UGC organized study tours**

UGC Officers' Association organized a study tour on February 19, 2010 at Jamuna Resort, Tangail. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC attended the program as the Chief Guest while Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Member, UGC and Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC among others were also present. Around 80 officers and their family members attended the tour.



*Professor Rawshan Ara Begum, wife of UGC Chairman  
Professor Nazrul Islam, speaking at the concluding session of the study tour*

UGC Karmakarta-Karmachari Parishad organized a study tour on February 12, 2010 at Jahangirnagar University, Savar. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman of UGC, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Members of UGC attended the program. About 100 members of the parishad and their family members joined the tour.

### UGC Members attended GG4 Conference in UK

A 3-member delegation led by Mr. Ataur Rahman, Secretary, Ministry of Education along with Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Members of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh attended the 4th International Going Global (GG4) Conference under INSPIRE project at invitation from the British Council, United Kingdom from March 22 to 24, 2010 at London, UK.



*UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum  
participating at the GG4 Conference in UK*

GG4 is the UK's largest international education conference which works for staff and student mobility, global partnerships, global citizens, and policy and leadership. The conference included debates, round-table discussions, workshops, presentations, lectures etc. Professor Dr. Amena Begum presented a country paper at the conference titled "National Strategy for International Partnership - Bangladesh Context" on March 26, 2010.

### Debate Festival 2010

A two-day long Trust Bank 5th NDF BD National Debate Festival 2010 was held on January 30-31, 2010 at Shishu Academy, Dhaka. Finance Minister Abul Mal Abdul Muhit attended the inaugural ceremony as the Chief Guest while Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, Member, UGC, Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University, Professor Mozaffar Ahmed, President, Shushashoner Jonnay Nagorik, Shah A Sarwar, Managing Director, Trust Bank, Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Daffodil International University and Farhadur Reza Probal were the Special Guests.

Professor Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Emeritus Professor of Dhaka University was honored on the occasion with a lifetime achievement award for his lifelong contribution to debating and teaching. Md. Zillur Rahman, Assistant Secretary, UGC and ex-debater was the judge of the debate competition held on the occasion.

### Presentations by UGC SAARC Fellows

◆ Dr. Tapati Mukhopadhyay, Reader in Geography, Siddharth College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai, India, recently worked as SAARC Fellow under the SAARC Chair, Fellowship and Scholarship Scheme, being implemented by the UGC of Bangladesh, made a presentation on "Unsung Heroes : Anushilan Samity, Dhaka 1930-1946" on January 18, 2010 at UGC Auditorium. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC chaired the program while Members and officials of UGC were also present. Dr. Mukhopadhyay in her presentation nicely described the movement of Anushilan Samity members in Dhaka against the then British occupation in Indian sub-continent.



*UGC SAARC Fellow Dr. Tapati Mukhopadhyay speaking at her presentation*

◆ Dr. PK Kalyani, a SAARC fellow, presented her paper on "Felt voices singing in unison" at UGC auditorium on March



*UGC SAARC Fellow Dr. PK Kalyani speaking at her presentation ceremony at UGC*

24, 2010. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC attended the presentation ceremony as the Chief Guest.

In her presentation Dr. Kalyani focused on the comparative picture of life and works of our national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam and famous Indian poet Vharatidasan. Through her research she proved that both of the poets sang in unison in favour of the suppressed and deprived people of the society.

UGC Secretary Md. Khaled, Director of Research and Publication Dr. Md. Lutfe Alam, Acting Director of Private University Division Md. Shamsul Alam and other officers of UGC attended the function.

### **Monitoring Committee for Preventing Corruption formed at UGC**

A five-member Monitoring Committee headed by Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim has been formed at UGC for preventing corruption and to establish a corruption free working environment. Other members of the committee are Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Member, Md. Khaled, Secretary, Dr. Md. Lutfe Alam, Director, Research and Publication, and Md. Shamsul Alam, Director (In-charge), Private University Division of UGC. If any corruptions or malpractices are found or informed against any officials or staff of UGC, the committee will take necessary steps.

### **Committee formed at UGC to protect sexual harrasment**

An eight-member Complaint Committee headed by Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Member, UGC, has been formed to protect sexual harrasment in the Commission. Other members of the committee are Professor Dr. HKS Arefin, Anthropology Department, Dhaka University, Ayasa Khanam, president, Bangladesh Mohila Parisad, Md. Mokhlesur Rahman, Joint-Secretary, Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Deputy Director, Laila Parvin, Deputy Secretary, Jesmin Parvin, Assistant Director of UGC and Advocate Ram Lal Raha of Bangladesh Mohila Parisad. If any complaint of sexual harrasment against any officials or staff of UGC is found, the committee will take necessary steps.

### **UGC Staff News: Appointments and Promotions**

In the month of March 2010 some fresh appointments and promotions have taken place at the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh. Mr. Md. Mokhlesur Rahman has been promoted to the post of Joint-Secretary (Administration), Ms. Razia Khatun to the post of Additional Director (Research and Publication), Mr. Md. Kamal Hossain to the post of Deputy Director (Research and Publication), Ms. Tahmina Rahman to the post of Computer Programmer (Training and Instrumentation), Mr. Md. Shahin Siraj to the post of Assistant Secretary (Administration) and Mr. Mohammad Nazrul Islam to the post of Section Officer (Finance and Accounts).

Moreover, the Commission has newly recruited Ms. Mauli Azad as Assistant Secretary (Legal) and Mr. Md. Golam Dostegir as Publication Officer (Research and Publication). Earlier, some officers and employees of UGC have also been upgraded to senior posts like Mr. Md. Jalal Uddin to the post of Assistant Secretary (Administration), Mr. Md. Shafiullah and Mr. MA Wares to the post of Section Officer (Administration).

## **Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) News**

### **HEQEP Promotion Workshop at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University**



*Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed receiving a crest from SAU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Md. Shah-E-Alam. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam was also present*

A workshop on Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) was held in the conference room of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU) on March 11, 2010. It was jointly organized by Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC). Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed, Adviser (Education, Social Welfare and Political Affairs) to the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the workshop as the Chief Guest.

Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh attended the function as the Special Guest. In his speech Professor Nazrul Islam stressed the need for improving the quality of higher education. The Vice-Chancellor of SAU Professor Dr. Md. Shah-E-Alam presided over the inaugural session.

Later Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed inaugurated the newly constructed bungalow of the SAU Vice-Chancellor.

### **AIF Proposal Writing Workshop held at UGC**

Under the Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) implemented by the UGC a three-day long workshop on AIF Proposal Writing was held at UGC Auditorium during 1-3 March 2010. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC inaugurated the workshop as the Chief Guest.

Professor Islam inspired the participating teachers to identify the problems of respective universities and submit proposals in view of solving them. He said under the AIF component Taka 372 crore will be allocated among the universities to enhance the quality of higher education. He also said that the government has taken this fund from the World Bank as loan and every penny of the amount should be utilized transparently to establish a knowledge based society.

Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Member, UGC was the main resource person of the workshop while Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque, Member, UGC, Professor Dr. Mozahar Ali, Bangladesh Agricultural University and Md. Asahabur



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, Member Professor Atful Hye Shibly, among others, are seen at the inaugural session of AIF Proposal Writing Workshop*

Rahman, consultant, World Bank delivered lectures in the technical sessions of the workshop.

Project Director Md. Ruknud-Deen Ahmed delivered the welcome address while AIF Coordinator Md. Korban Ali gave vote of thanks. Members and high officials of UGC and HEQEP were present on the occasion.

About 150 teachers from different public universities of the country participated in the workshop.

#### **AIF Promotional Activities in Different Universities**

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), Mymensingh on January 13, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum and Vice-Chancellor of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University Professor Dr. Syed Giasuddin Ahmed were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of BAU Professor Dr. M.A. Sattar Mandal presided over the session.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology (DUET) on January 16, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum and Vice-Chancellor of Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Professor Dr. M. Nurul Islam were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of DUET Professor Dr. Mohammad Sabder Ali presided over the session.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Jahangirnagar University (JU) on February 7, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Amena Begum was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while another Member Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam was the Special Guest. Vice-Chancellor of JU Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir presided over the session.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) on February 10, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while Professor Dr. Amena Begum was the Special Guest.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Jagannath University on February 14, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and

Professor Dr. Amena Begum were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of Jagannath University Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed presided over the session.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) on February 17, 2010. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University Professor Dr. Shah-E-Alam and Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) Major General Md. Safiqul Islam, ndc, psc were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of BUET Professor Dr. AMM Shafiullah presided over the session. UGC Members Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum were also present.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at University of Rajshahi (RU) on March 11, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Amena Begum was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while another Member Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Vice-Chancellor of Islamic University Professor Dr. M. Alauddin were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of RU Professor Dr. M. Abdus Sobhan presided over the session.

Deans, Heads of Departments, members of University Proposal Screening Committee (UPSC) and University Academic Innovation Fund Secretariat (UAIFS) of RU and Islamic University took part in the day-long workshop.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) on March 16, 2010. UGC Member Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while other Members Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam and Professor Dr. Amena Begum were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of PSTU Professor Dr. Syed Sakhawat Hussain presided over the session.

Mr. Asahabur Rahman, Consultant, World Bank, Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid of PSTU and Mr. Md. Korban Ali, Coordinator, Academic Innovation Fund (AIF), HEQEP spoke on the occasion. Md. Zillur Rahman, Assistant Secretary, UGC offered vote of thanks.

◆ An AIF promotion workshop was held at University of Dhaka (DU) on March 24, 2010. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid and Treasurer Professor Dr. Mizanur Rahman of DU were the Special Guests. Vice-Chancellor of DU Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique presided over the session.

Professor Dr. Ehsanul Haque, Member, UGC, Mr. Ruknud-Deen Ahmed, Project Director of Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP), Mr. Asahabur Rahman, Consultant, World Bank and Professor Iqbal Ahmad and Professor Dr. Rakha Hari Sarker of DU and Professor Dr. Abul Kashem Mia of BUET spoke on the occasion. Mr. Md. Korban Ali, Coordinator, Academic Innovation Fund (AIF), HEQEP offered vote of thanks.

In these AIF Promotion Workshops Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam elaborated the aim, objective and mode of operation of the projects under AIF as the main resource person while Mr. Asahabur Rahman, Consultant, World Bank explained the financial management issues and Professor Dr. Amena Begum gave brief introduction of the Higher Education Management and Information Systems (HEMIS).

## Public Universities News

### Dhaka University

◆ Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Dhaka organized the “Begum Rokeya Memorial Lecture” marking the celebration of “Rokeya Day” at the Senate Bhaban of DU on January 21, 2010. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam attended the program as the Chief Guest.



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam speaking on Rokeya Day as the Chief Guest at University of Dhaka*

Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government and Executive Director of Aain O Salish Kendra Advocate Sultana Kamal presented the keynote paper at the program on “Family Laws in the Eyes of Rokeya: Context Present Bangladesh”, while Syed Md. Sheikh Intiaz, Chairman, Department of Women and Gender Studies, DU presided over it.

Sultana Kamal said Rokeya had felt by her heart that the existing family laws had kept women confined. So steps should be taken to establish women rights implementing Rokeya’s dreams, she added. UGC Chairman said in his speech that Rokeya was an astonishing gift of history and the nation will remember her forever for her contribution to the development of female education.

◆ Science and ICT Minister Yeafesh Osman underscored the need for acquiring proper knowledge and use of modern technology to build digital Bangladesh. “To build a digital Bangladesh and develop the country, knowledge of modern technology and its proper application is a must”, he said as the Chief Guest at an international conference on recent advances in Physics on March 27, 2010 at Dhaka University (DU) campus.

DU Physics Department, Science and ICT Ministry and University Grants Commission (UGC) jointly organized the seminar which was participated, among others, by delegates from the USA, India, Japan, Korea and Italy.

DU Vice-Chancellor Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique said that the future of human resource lies with education, training and research. He said human resource planning will grow most rapidly in this age of science and technology.

Chairperson of the department Professor Sultana Shafee presided over the function while DU Pro-VC Professor Harun-or-Rashid, former DU Pro-VC Professor AFM Yusuf Haider, Professor Muhammad Ibrahim and Professor Kazi Monowar Abedin, among others, addressed the conference.

### Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS) have signed an agreement on January 12, 2010 to increase cooperation and exchange of knowledge and expertise.

As per the agreement, faculty exchange program as well as students and trainee exchange program will be encouraged. Participation in joint research and publication projects will also take place under this agreement. Exchange of research results and technical facilities will also be facilitated.

Vice-Chancellor of BSMMU Professor Pran Gopal Datta and Director of AIMS Professor Ramesh Chandra Deka signed the agreement. According to Professor Datta AIMS would train up about 200 health professionals in the next five years as per the agreement.

### Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology

The 3rd International Conference on Structure, Processing and Properties of Materials (SPPM) 2010 organized by the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering (MME), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in association with the Materials Research Society (MRS) of USA was held on February 24, 2010 at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

Architect Yeafesh Osman, State Minister, Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology delivered his speech as the Chief Guest and inaugurated the Conference. Vice-Chancellor of BUET Professor Dr. A. M. M. Safiullah as the Special Guest and Pro Vice-Chancellor



*Architect Yeafesh Osman, State Minister, Ministry of Science & ICT inaugurating the 3rd International Conference on SPPM*

Professor Dr. M. Habibur Rahman as the Guest of Honour also spoke on the occasion. Among others Professor Dr. Gohn Campbell, University of Birmingham, UK, Conference Chair Professor Dr. Md. Mohar Ali Bapari, Head of the Department of MME Professor Dr. Qumrul Ahsan and Conference Secretary Professor Dr. A.K.M. Bazlur Rashid also spoke on the occasion.

In the inaugural ceremony the Chief Guest said ‘Dreams of Bangabandhu have remained partially realized because of

his sudden death. His daughter Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh has taken steps to complete the next half of his dream through Vision 2021-Digital Bangladesh.

## Bangladesh Agricultural University



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam speaking at 16th Annual Scientific Conference of BSVER as the Chief Guest*

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam urged the veterinary scientists to come forward and work together in order to prevent and control infectious diseases of livestock and poultry in Bangladesh for the greater national interest.

Professor Nazrul Islam was addressing the inaugural function of the two-day long 16th Annual Scientific Conference of Bangladesh Society for Veterinary Education and Research (BSVER) as the Chief Guest. It was held at Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh on February 07, 2010.

He said livestock sector is facing increasing challenges from different emerging and reemerging trans-boundary animal diseases. He also stressed the need for developing animal agriculture in the country.

Professor Dr. Nitish Chandra Debnath, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Awal, Vice-Chancellor, Sylhet Agricultural University and Professor Dr. Md. Motahar Hussain Mondal, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science, BAU attended the program as the Special Guests.

BAU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. M.A. Sattar Mandal was the Chief Patron of the conference while former BAU Vice-Chancellor and BSVER President Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain chaired the program.

## Rajshahi University

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam visited Rajshahi University during January 14-15, 2010 to attend a seminar and a book launching ceremony.

On January 14, 2010 he attended the launching ceremony of a book titled 'History Society Culture: ABM Husain Festschrift' as the Chief Guest with Professor M. Abdus Sobhan, RU Vice-Chancellor in the chair. The book was published marking the 75th birth anniversary of Dr. ABM Husain, the first Professor Emeritus of RU.

On January 15, 2010 UGC Chairman attended the inaugural ceremony of a two-day long international seminar on "Rajshahi City: Past and Present" as the Guest of Honour and made a Keynote Presentation on the Development of the City.

The seminar was organized by the Institute of Bangladesh Studies of RU. Rajshahi City Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton was present as the Chief Guest on the occasion, while RU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. M. Abdus Sobhan presided over it.

Among others the opening ceremony was addressed by UGC Member Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, RU Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Muhammad Nurullah, Professor Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, Professor Dr. Syed Anwar Hossain of Dhaka University and Dr. Ranjit Sen from India.

## Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology

The Hon'ble President of Bangladesh Md. Zillur Rahman stressed the need for expanding the education of science and information and communication technology (ICT) for transforming the country's huge population into human resources. "It is necessary to expand the education of science and technology," he said while addressing the 1st Convocation of Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology (DUET) on March 8, 2010.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid was present at the Convocation as the Special Guest while Professor Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, former Advisor to the caretaker government, delivered his speech as the Convocation Speaker.

President Md. Zillur Rahman emphasised making the country's education curricula, including the study of engineering, more time-befitting with a view to keeping pace with the global standard of education. DUET Vice-Chancellor Professor Mohammad Sabdar Ali also spoke on the occasion.

## Bangladesh University of Professionals



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam & BUP Vice-Chancellor Major General Md. Safiqul Islam seen at BUPParents' Workshop and Students' Orientation program*

◆ Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) organized Parents' workshop and Students' orientation program on January 7, 2010 at the Military Institute of Science and Technology auditorium. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam graced the function as the Chief Guest with BUP Vice-Chancellor Major General Md. Safiqul Islam, ndc, psc in the chair.

◆ An international workshop on 'The role of e-governance in creating a better government' jointly organized by

Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) and Network of Asia Pacific School and Institute of Public Administration and Governance was held on March 27, 2010 at BUP.

Dr. Alauddin Ahmed, Education, Social Welfare and Political Affairs Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, attended the program as the Chief Guest while Chief of Bangladesh Army General Mohammad Abdul Mubin and Chairman of UGC Professor Nazrul Islam were the Special Guests.

Major General Mohammad Safiqul Islam, Vice-Chancellor of BUP presented the concept paper at the workshop while Professor Amita Singh, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India presented the keynote paper.

Among others, Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, former Advisor to the caretaker government, Mr. Faruq Sobhan, former Ambassador, Dr. Sharif-Us-Saber, Dr. RFI Smith, Professor Dr. Salahuddin M. Aminuzzaman and KMM Murshed spoke on the occasion.

### Sylhet Agricultural University

Sylhet Agricultural University (SAU) organized an orientation program for its first year students for the 2010 academic session on March 2, 2010 at the University auditorium. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while UGC Member Professor Atful Hye Shibly and SAU Vice-Chancellor Professor Md. Abdul Awal were present as the Special Guests.

UGC Chairman called upon the students and teachers of SAU to keep the campus free from political conflicts for developing congenial atmosphere. He also requested the university teachers to teach the students to develop patriotism and moral values rising above political ideologies.

### Islamic University

The Islamic University, Kushtia (Amendment) Bill 2010 was passed in the National Parliament on March 14, 2010.

Earlier on January 25, 2010 Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, MP introduced the bill in the House proposing to turn Islamic University into an educational and residential Islamic University with authority to incorporate the Fazil and Kamil courses into it.

### Shahjalal University of Science and Technology

A seminar on 'Sustainable Development and Environment Friendly Building Materials' was held at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet during March 10-11, 2010. Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury was present as the Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony of the seminar, while Vice-Chancellor of the University Professor Dr. Md. Saleh Uddin presided over it.

### Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology

Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET) Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) Association observed a two-day long splendid national ICT festival titled "Teletalk-CUETICT Fête" to celebrate the 10th anniversary of CSE Department on January 22, 2010.

Mr. Dilip Barua, Minister, Ministry of Industries was present as the Chief Guest on the occasion while prominent scientist Professor Dr. Jamal Nazrul Islam was the Special Guest. CUET Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Shyamal Kanti Biswas presided over the ceremony.

### Comilla University



*Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed, Professor Nazrul Islam and Mujibul Haque Mujib, MP, among others are seen while inaugurating new halls at Comilla University*

Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed, Education, Social Welfare and Political Affairs Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, inaugurated three new halls of Comilla University on 27 February 2010. Later he attended a discussion meeting on the occasion at the University premises as the Chief Guest while Whip of the Parliament Mujibul Haque Mujib MP and UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam were the Special Guests. Nasimul Alam Chowdhury Nazrul, MP and Jobeda Khatun Parul, MP also attended the program as the Guests of Honour. Vice-Chancellor of the Comilla University Professor Dr. Amir Hossain Khan presided over the function.

The name of three new halls are Nawab Faizunnesa Chowdhurani Hall, Shahid Dharendra Nath Dutta Hall and Kazi Nazrul Islam Hall.

Dr. Alauddin urged all concerned to consider merit as the only basis of admitting students and appointing teachers and staff.

Professor Nazrul Islam said teachers, students and people from all walks of life should take combined effort to build up the University to the world standard.

Among others, Vice-Chancellor of World University and Comilla University Syndicate member Dr. Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Proctor Dr. M. Abu Zafar, Acting Registrar Kamal Uddin Bhuiyan, Professor Kazi Zahidur Rahman of the University spoke on the occasion.

### Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University



Professor Dr. M. Khairul Alam Khan joined the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, being implemented at Gopalganj District, as the Project Director on January 5, 2010. He is on deputation from the Applied Physics and Electronic Engineering Department of Rajshahi University.

## Barisal University



Dr. Md. Harunor Rashid Khan, Professor, Department of Soil, Water and Environment, University of Dhaka has been appointed the Project Director (PD) of the University of Barisal by the Ministry of Education.

## Jahangirnagar University

The Hon'ble President of Bangladesh Md. Zillur Rahman while presiding over the 4th Convocation of Jahangirnagar University expressed his concern since the country's universities are lagging behind the international standard and he urged the University Grants Commission (UGC) as well as Education Ministry on January 30, 2010 to take proper steps in this regard.

President Md. Zillur Rahman urged all concerned to actively consider the matter of increasing the number of seats at university level with a view to create more skilled manpower in the country.

Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman expressed his satisfaction over the government initiated massive programs including UGC's project titled 'Higher Education Quality Enhancement' for creating more opportunities of higher education as well as improving the quality of education. "The private university act 1992 is also being made time befitting," he added. "I hope that these initiatives would be able to contribute to the greater welfare of the nation," he said.

A total of 3,874 students were conferred Ph.D., M.Phil. and graduate and under-graduate degrees in the Convocation. Sixteen gold medals were awarded to the students for their outstanding academic performance. Chief Justice Tafazzal Islam delivered the Convocation Speech while Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid spoke as the Guest of Honor. Vice-Chancellor of the University Professor Shariff Enamul Kabir also spoke on the occasion.

## Chittagong University

The Annual Botanical Conference, jointly organized by the Bangladesh Botanical Society and the Department of Botany, Chittagong University (CU) was held at the Faculty of Biological Sciences of CU on January 9, 2010. Primary and Mass Education Minister Dr. Afsarul Amin, MP inaugurated the conference as the Chief Guest while Professor Dr. Abu Yusuf, Vice-Chancellor, CU chaired the function. Professor Dr. M. Alauddin, Pro Vice-Chancellor of CU was present on the occasion as the Special Guest and Professor Dr. M. A. Gafur, Chairman of the Department of Botany and Secretary of the organizing committee delivered the address of welcome.

Dr. Afsarul Amin said, the earth is only one and we ought to save it. The influence of global climatic change and food security are the basic problems which have made our existence endangered. Professor Dr. Abdul Aziz, Department of Botany, University of Dhaka presented the keynote paper on 'Coastal and Marine Plant Resources of Bangladesh: Management and Exploitation' at the technical session of the conference.

## Private Universities News

### Daffodil International University



*Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, speaking at the 9th Foundation Day program of Daffodil International University as the Chief Guest*

◆ Mohammad Hasan Khan (Sun) and Md. Hossain Khan (Moon) of the Department of Textile Engineering, Daffodil International University (DIU) won the Gold Medal in Karate in the recently concluded South Asian (SA) Games-2010 held in Dhaka.

◆ DIU became Champion in Inter-Private University Programming Contest 2010. International University of Business Agriculture and Technology organized this programming contest in observance of its 18th Founding Anniversary. Dr. Abdur Razzak, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management distributed the prizes among the winners.

◆ DIU observed its 9th Foundation Day on February 24, 2010. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, M.P, Minister, Ministry of Education graced the occasion as the Chief Guest while Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission was present as the Special Guest.

Presided over by Mr. Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Board of Governors, DIU the program was addressed by Professor Dr. Aminul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, Professor M. Shahjahan Miah, Adviser, Professor Dr. Lutfur Rahman, Professor Dr. Sushil Kumar Das and Dr. Md. Fokhrul Hossain of DIU.

### University of Development Alternative

◆ The University of Development Alternative (UODA) organized an inauguration program to open the festivities on the occasion of UODA Week-2010, which was held on January 23, 2010. Mr. Rashed Khan Menon, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Education inaugurated the week-long program as the Chief Guest.

Professor Emajuddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of the University chaired the inauguration. Professor Mujib Khan, Founder and President of the University also attended the program and spoke on the occasion.

The Department of Fine Arts of the University of Development Alternative arranged an exhibition on the occasion of UODA Week-2010 at the departmental premises. Over two hundred

paintings by the students of the department were exhibited from January 23 to February 8, 2010.

◆ A prize-giving ceremony was held on the closing day to handover prizes to student-painters. It was attended by the University Grants Commission Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam as the Chief Guest while the Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Deans of UODA were present during the ceremony.

In his speech Professor Nazrul Islam stressed the importance of art in life and praised the efforts of the UODA student-painters. The ceremony was also attended by the departmental teachers and students.

### Eastern University



*Professor Mohammad Rafique speaking at a discussion meeting at Eastern University as the Chief Guest*

A discussion meeting on the occasion of the Great Martyred and International Mother Language Day was held at Eastern University auditorium on February 24, 2010. Ekushe Padak-2010 winner poet Mohammad Rafique graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The program was presided over by Professor Dr. Rahim B. Talukdar, Vice-Chancellor of Eastern University. The discussion was followed by a cultural program.

### American International University, Bangladesh

The American International University, Bangladesh Vice-Chancellor Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna together with Mr. Hasanul A. Hasan, Treasurer and Vice-President for HR and Administration represented the University and the country in an international conference held in Baguio, Benguet, Philippines during February 2-4, 2010.

The theme of the conference was "Best Practices in University International Development Cooperation". It was organized by St. Louis University and Benguet State University and funded by Flemish Inter-University Council. The conference brought together individuals and institutions involved in international academic collaborations in higher education institutions worldwide.

The event opened possibilities for new academic and institutional partnerships among the participants. Mr. Ehsanul Huda Chowdhury, Director for the MBAProgram and Mr. Nisar Ahmed, Department Head for Accounting and



*Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna VC, AIUB at a conference in Philippines*

Finance were also present. Dr. Lamagna was a Plenary Speaker during the program on "Asian Model of University Development Cooperation".

### IBAIS University

The Hon'ble President of Bangladesh Md. Zillur Rahman urged the private universities to ensure proper infrastructural facilities for their students alongside maintaining requisite standard of education. He was speaking on the occasion of 1st Convocation of IBAIS University held on March 15, 2010.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid attended the Convocation as the Special Guest while Professor Dr. Syed Monzoorul Islam of Department of English, University of Dhaka spoke as the Convocation Speaker.

President Md. Zillur Rahman highlighted important prerequisites for quality higher education, which include experienced faculties, ICT, library and laboratory facilities, necessary infrastructure, opportunities of sports and creative activities and tuition fees in keeping with the socio-economic condition. Vice-Chancellor Professor Khandkar Rezaur Rahman and President of the Board of Governors Professor Zakaria Lincoln also spoke on the occasion.

### University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh



*Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, State Minister, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, ULAB Vice Chancellor Professor Rafiqul Islam and the Spanish Ambassador H.E. Arturo Pérez Martínez visit the exhibition*

The Embassy of Spain and the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) hosted a student-produced multimedia exhibition on the empowerment of women in the Bangladeshi readymade garment industry held during February 22-25, 2010.

The exhibition entitled "The Threaded Resort," was launched by Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, State Minister, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and the Spanish Ambassador H.E. Arturo Pérez Martínez.

### Independent University, Bangladesh

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) celebrated its 13th Convocation by conferring degrees on 660 students on March 02, 2010 at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Dhaka. The Vice-Chancellor of IUB Professor Bazlul Mobin Chowdhury conferred the degrees on behalf of the Chancellor of the University and the Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Eminent Indian journalist and politician Mr. MJ Akbar was present as the Convocation Speaker on the occasion.

### Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology

Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology (AUST) organized a three-day Philatelic Exhibition titled "AUST Philatelic Exhibition 2010" during January 9-11, 2010 for students, teachers, philatelists and public in general. Bangladesh National Philatelic Association was the joint sponsor of this exhibition.

Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, MP, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication graced the inaugural ceremony as the Chief Guest while Mr. Mobasherur Rahman, Director General, Bangladesh Postal Department was present as the Guest of Honour. Professor. Dr. M. Anwar Hossain, Vice-Chancellor, AUST presided over the function. Professor. Dr. Kazi Shariful Alam, Treasurer, AUST and President of Bangladesh National Philatelic Association made introductory statements on the occasion.

### ASA University Bangladesh

Freshers' Reception Program for Spring-2010 students of ASA University Bangladesh was held at ASA University auditorium on February 16, 2010. Professor Md. Muinuddin Khan, Vice-Chancellor, ASA University Bangladesh presided over the Ceremony, while Professor Dr. Kh. Bazlul Haque, Chairman, Board of Directors, Agrani Bank Ltd. was present as the Chief Guest. Mr. Md. Shafiqul Haque Choudhury, President ASA & Chairman, Board of Governors, ASAUB graced the occasion as the Special Guest.

### Southern University Bangladesh

Department of English of Southern University Bangladesh, Chittagong organized a seminar on 'Contemporary Poetry' at the Conference Room of Southern University Bangladesh.

Professor A.Z.M Shamsuzzaman Khan, Head, Department of English, Southern University presided over the seminar while Professor A.J.M. Nuruddin Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor of Southern University and Professor Dr. Md. Sharifuzaman, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Southern University graced the event as the Chief Guest and Special Guest respectively. Safin Muhammad John, Lecturer of the Department of English presented the keynote paper entitled "A Typical Bond

Between Men and Nature in Contemporary Poetry". In his paper he dealt with the new poetic responses to nature in contemporary poems.

### Stamford University

Stamford University Drama Society (SUDS) arranged the 2nd Stamford Solo Acting Competition for the students of Stamford University Bangladesh. The final round and the prize-giving ceremony of the competition were held at Siddeswari Campus auditorium.



*Members of Stamford University Drama Society performing at the 2nd Stamford Solo Acting Competition*

The Chief Guest of the final round was Mrs. Fatinaaz Feroz, Vice-President of Stamford University Foundation, and the Special Guest was Professor Dr. Majibur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor of Stamford University Bangladesh.

### United International University



*Mr. Dilip Barua, Minister, Ministry of Industry speaking at the program. On his left Dr. Mozaffar Ahmed and UIU Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. M Rezwon Khan are seen*

United International University Debate Club (UIU-DC) and United Youth and Student Association of Bangladesh (UNYSAB-UIU Chapter) organized a youth parliamentary session on "Climate Change, Copenhagen Talk and Aftermath: Bangladesh Context" on January 5, 2010. Mr. Dilip Barua, Minister, Ministry of Industries was present on the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Among others, distinguished guests like Khaled Mahmud Chowdhury, MP, Syed Nazrul Islam, MP, Dr. Mozaffar Ahmed, Dr. Ainun Nishat and Mr. Niaz Rahim were also present.

## Darul Ihsan University



Professor Monirul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of Darul Ihsan University, former Member of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh and Chairman of the Geology Department, University of Dhaka, died at LabAid Hospital on March 22, 2010 at the age of 70. He had been suffering from Hodgkin's Lymphoma for the last couple of months.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam expressed his deep shock at the death of Professor Monirul Haque.

## People's University of Bangladesh

The 2nd Convocation of People's University of Bangladesh was held on February 09, 2010 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center in the city. Hon'ble President of Bangladesh and the Chancellor of the University Md. Zillur Rahman presided over the Ceremony, while Advisor (Education, Social Welfare and Political Affairs) to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed was the Special Guest.

Chairman of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh Professor Nazrul Islam was the Guest of Honour. Former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury delivered the convocation speech while Vice-Chancellor of the People's University of Bangladesh Professor Dr. Md. Aslam Bhuiyan delivered the welcome address.

## BRAC University

Professor Nazrul Islam inaugurated the digital cataloguing system of BRAC University library on February 3, 2010. Professor Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor of the University presided over the program.

The University has taken the help of using KOHA software through international competition to introduce the new technology. While speaking as the Chief Guest Professor Nazrul Islam said this new technology will help the students, teachers and officials to use the library more efficiently and effectively.

## State University of Bangladesh



Keynote Speaker Ms. Intisar C. Khan speaking on the occasion

A seminar was organized by the Department of Food Science, Technology & Nutrition (FSTN) on February 10, 2010 at State University of Bangladesh. The keynote speaker was Intisar C. Khan, Manager, Group Microbiology Services, Dairy Crest Ltd, UK. In the keynote paper the speaker elaborated different aspects of HACCP and how it can be applied in the food industry of Bangladesh. The seminar was chaired by Professor Dr. S. F. Rubbi, Head of the Department and conducted by Professor Dr. Khairul Azam, Department of FSTN. HACCP involves control of quality from the grassroot level to finished product.

Registrar, Controller of Examinations, Heads of Departments, faculty members and students of all departments of SUB attended the program. Besides, representatives from different food industries were also present.

## Prime University

A seminar on "SME: An Instrument for Development of Bangladesh" was organized by the Center for Research, HRD and Publications, Prime University on February 19, 2010. Professor Dr. M. Abdus Samad, Vice-Chancellor of the University attended the seminar as the Chief Guest while Dr. M. A. Jaill, Dean, Faculty of Business Studies presented the keynote paper. Mr. Aftab-ul Islam, Chairperson, SME Foundation was the chief discussant of the seminar.

## North South University

The Hon'ble President of Bangladesh Md. Zillur Rahman urged the private universities to reduce their tuition fees. "Offer more scholarships for the poor but brilliant students", he said while addressing the 13th Convocation of North South University (NSU) on January 9, 2010. The President also said that universities should not be merely profit-making organizations. Congratulating the new graduates he called upon them to uphold the national interest in their professional life. A total of 726 students were conferred post-graduate and under-graduate degrees. Canadian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert McDougall, NSU Vice-Chancellor Professor Hafiz G A Siddiqi and Chairman of NSU Foundation MA Kashem, among others, spoke on the occasion.

## BGC Trust University Bangladesh

A seminar was held under the Faculty of Business Administration regarding the MBA Program of the BGC Trust University Bangladesh on January 16, 2010 with Professor Dr. Ranajit Kumar Chowdhury, Dean, Faculty of Business Administration in the Chair.

Professor Ranajit Kumar Dhar, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Treasurer of the University was present as the Chief Guest on the occasion while Professor Farid Ahmad, Registrar of the University delivered the welcome speech.

## Leading University

A seminar on "Needs of Science for Religions" was held on January 23, 2010 at Leading University. Professor Dr. Sayed Misbah Din, Emeritus Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Keele, UK presented the keynote paper at the seminar. Professor Dr. Md. Kabir Hossain, Acting Vice-Chancellor of Leading University presided over the seminar.

## Sylhet International University



Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam and Professor Anisuzzaman, among others, are seen at the 2nd Convocation of Sylhet International University.

The 2nd Convocation of Sylhet International University (SIU) was held on January 11, 2010 in its own permanent campus. Finance Minister Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith presided over this occasion and conferred the degrees on behalf of the Hon'ble Chancellor Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam was present as the Chief Guest of the ceremony. Eminent educationist and literateur Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, University of Dhaka delivered speech as the Convocation Speaker. Over seven hundred people including students, teachers and guests were present in the ceremony.

A total of 171 students from 6 disciplines (141 undergraduate, 30 graduate) received their degrees in the convocation. Four students were awarded Gold Medals and 3 students were awarded Deans' Award for their outstanding academic achievements.

## Northern University Bangladesh



Professor Dr. M. Shamsul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of NUB inaugurated Clean Dhaka Program 2010 organized by the Environment Club of NUB at Raiyer Bazar area

The Environment Club of Northern University Bangladesh (NUB) organized the Clean Dhaka activity at Buddhijibi Mass Graveyard as a part of individual social responsibility on January 21, 2010.

Professor Dr. M. Shamsul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of NUB, inaugurated the program as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. MA Razzak, Professor Dr. Sheikh Ashraf Ali, Dr. Ekramul Islam and Mohammad Faizullah Kawshik were present during the program.

## Recent Publications of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

- সংস্কৃত গীতিকা ॥ ড. মুহাম্মদ মতিউর রহমান  
জানুয়ারি ২০০৯, পৃষ্ঠা ১৪+২৪০, মূল্য: ১০০.০০ টাকা, US\$ 5.00
- শিক্ষাবিজ্ঞান ও বাংলাদেশে শিক্ষা (২য় সংস্করণ) ॥ প্রফেসর আব্দুল মালেক ও অন্যান্য  
ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০০৯, পৃষ্ঠা ৫৬০, মূল্য: ২০০.০০ টাকা, US\$ 10.00
- মেডিক্যাল রেকর্ড সিস্টেম ॥ মোঃ জসিম উদ্দিন  
এপ্রিল ২০০৯, পৃষ্ঠা xviii+১৯৪, মূল্য: ১৪০.০০ টাকা, US\$ 10.00
- দ্য প্রিন্সিপলস অফ স্যারেন্টিফিক ম্যানেজমেন্ট ॥ মাজহারুল হাসান মজুমদার  
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