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Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)

UPDATES

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COVER STORY

Resilience Rewriting Destinies



DOS & DON'TS OF DENGUE

1



Drain water from coolers and other small containers every three days.

2



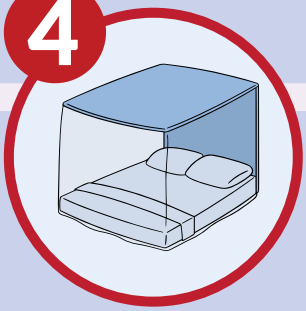
Use mosquito repellent aerosols during the daytime to prevent mosquito bites.

3



Do not wear clothes that expose arms and legs.

4



Use mosquito nets or mosquito repellents while sleeping during the daytime.

Department of Public Health
School of Pharmacy & Public Health
Independent University, Bangladesh

Editorial

As we reflect on the past semester at IUB, it is evident that the January-April 2024 period has been among the most dynamic and impactful in our history. Our university has not only hosted a series of significant global and local events but also formed partnerships that promise to enhance our academic and research capabilities. These events, graced by distinguished figures from academia, research, industry and policy-making spheres, underscore IUB's growing influence and commitment to excellence in higher education.

In this edition of UPDATES, our cover story celebrates the extraordinary journey of one of our alumni. Coming from a marginalized community, her story is one of resilience and determination, serving as an inspiration for all at IUB. Her achievements reflect the values we cherish and promote within our community, highlighting the transformative power of education.

Moreover, the semester has been notable for the vibrancy of our campus life. Our students have excelled in various extracurricular and co-curricular activities, showcasing their talents and the holistic education they receive at IUB. This edition aims to capture the spirit of these activities, painting a picture of a campus bustling with energy and enthusiasm.

This issue also introduces a new segment — welcoming the new faculty members who have joined us in recent semesters. Their diverse expertise and fresh perspectives are invaluable additions to our academic family. We look forward to featuring more of our new colleagues in future editions.

Together, these stories and developments highlight a semester of growth and achievement at IUB. As we move forward, we remain committed to building on these successes, ensuring that IUB continues to be a place where potential is nurtured and dreams are realized. •

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Message from the Vice Chancellor

Gender Inclusivity and National Goals



Tanweer Hasan, PhD

As the Vice Chancellor, I take immense pride in how our institution embodies the principles of gender inclusivity and aligns with the national sustainable development goals. Our commitment to mirroring Bangladesh's demographic composition, where approximately 51% are females, is evident in our steadily increasing female student enrollment, which has reached 48% in our recent intakes, marking a significant rise from three years ago. Currently, the female student population at IUB stands at a commendable 45%.

This drive for inclusivity extends beyond our student body to our faculty, where 56% of the full-time faculty recruited in 2023 were female, thereby enhancing female representation in leadership roles from 11% to 27% over the last three years. It is our firm belief that such initiatives, if adopted across the educational spectrum, can significantly accelerate our nation's progress towards its developmental goals.

The remarkable surge in female student enrollment at IUB can be attributed to a blend of special programs, financial incentives, and diverse outreach activities. The ARROWS program, a pioneer in academic excellence and mitigating financial barriers, boasts 60% female participation, reflecting our commitment to gender inclusivity. Furthermore, our curriculum has been adapted to prepare students for the challenges of the 4th Industrial Revolution, requiring all to take a coding class, with concerted efforts to attract more females into Science and Technology fields. Also, there has been a substantial 78% increase in female enrollment in our undergraduate Computer Science and Engineering program since Autumn 2020.

We have also focused on infrastructural improvements and programmatic initiatives tailored to female students' needs, such as upgraded sports facilities, dedicated prayer spaces, and professional coaching for national-level female athletes in different sports such as Squash, Basketball, Table Tennis, Chess and so on. In 2024, we enrolled two female squash players on full scholarships, with hopes that they will represent Bangladesh and IUB in the 2028 Olympics. Our health services have been redesigned to ensure privacy and inclusivity, complemented by a gender-balanced recruitment of service providers.

To further support our female students, IUB offers special tuition remission and need-based housing, with initiatives like the partnership with Bandarban University opening avenues for populations from underserved regions such as the Chittagong Hill Tracts. This unique exchange program highlights our dedication to expanding access and promoting diversity within our campus.

Our efforts over the past few years have been geared towards creating a nurturing environment that not only champions gender inclusivity but also contributes significantly to our national development goals. As we continue to evolve and implement these initiatives, IUB is proud to be recognized as a female-friendly campus, setting a standard for what educational institutions can achieve in terms of gender inclusivity.

Let us all embrace the ethos of "inspire inclusion," celebrating the strides we have made towards creating a balanced and equitable academic environment. It is my honor to lead an institution that stands at the forefront of such a crucial societal transformation, and I am optimistic about the future we are building for all our students, irrespective of gender. •

Resilience Rewriting Destinies

Discover the inspiring journey of IUB alumna Bipasha Tripura, from overcoming educational barriers in Khagrachari to making significant strides at UNESCO and advocating for marginalized communities in Bangladesh.



Bipasha Tripura

From the rolling hills of Khagrachari to the international corridors of UNESCO, Bipasha Tripura's story is not just one of personal triumph but also of inspiration for many. At 27, this dynamic individual from the Tripura community—a small ethnic entity in southeastern Bangladesh—is carving a niche for herself in the development sector, empowered by a solid educational foundation from IUB.

Born in Thakurchara village in Khagrachari in 1997, Bipasha faced socio-economic, educational, and cultural hurdles that stem from living in a marginalized community, compounded by her family's limited financial resources and a broader societal disposition that seldom favors the ambitious girl child. Her mother, deprived of education due to displacement and conflict, and her father, who was able to finish his studies up to class 10, instilled in her a relentless pursuit of education as the gateway to empowerment.

Bipasha attended a local primary school in Khagrachari where she struggled with the Bengali language. She soon realized that to achieve her dreams, she would need to step beyond the confines of her village. In 2007, she was accepted into class seven at Khagrachari Govt. Girls High School. However, reaching her new school, located in the district township some 7-8 km from home, was a constant struggle due to a shortage of transportation.

> **"Education is your most powerful tool for change. Believe in your ability to overcome barriers and seize every opportunity to learn and grow. Stand firm in your aspirations.**

"Most of my day was spent walking to the school and back home. When I was in class 10, my family realized that it would be better for me if I stayed at a relative's place in Khagrachari town. I lived there until I completed my Higher Secondary Certificate [HSC] examinations," Bipasha recollected.

"My father's small business faced a sudden collapse when I was preparing for my HSC exams, and as a result, my family was unable to pay for any additional schooling. I returned to my village after the HSC exams, putting my higher education plans on hold," she added.

Since Khagrachari was a small hill station that didn't have a university, Bipasha understood that in order to pursue her educational goals, she would have to relocate to a big city like Dhaka or Chattogram, which,

however, was not a financially viable option for her or her family.

"After much deliberation, I managed to persuade my family to support my decision to pursue undergraduate studies at Premier University, Chittagong, despite our financial difficulties and familial pressures," Bipasha explains.

Despite numerous challenges, she completed her undergraduate degree in February 2019. She aspired to pursue a master's degree at a top university in Dhaka, a goal that initially seemed unattainable due to the high costs of living and studying in the capital. To build her professional profile, she spent a year volunteering with organizations including Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Bangladesh and BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health. Her persistence paid off when she secured a scholarship at IUB to pursue a Master's in Development Studies.

"IUB was one of the driving forces in my journey. The scholarship and support I received there were pivotal, allowing me to lay a strong foundation for my career. I am deeply grateful to IUB for empowering me to transform challenges into stepping stones towards achieving my dreams," reflects Bipasha.



Bipasha poses for a photograph with the faculty members of IUB's School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (SLASS) on her thesis defense day on August 11, 2022

"I am both grateful and delighted that I am the first girl in my extended family to earn a master's degree. Unfortunately, my two brothers were not as lucky. They faced similar challenges and, despite completing HSC, they were compelled to discontinue their college education due to these difficulties," said Bipasha.

Having worked for several years as a volunteer for the Culture Program at UNESCO Dhaka Office, Bipasha joined the same program as a Junior Consultant in April 2024. She plays a role in shaping cultural narratives and initiatives that have global resonance. Her work supports UNESCO's mission of preserving cultural heritage and promoting peace and sustainability.



Bipasha, along with her colleagues, poses for a photograph at the UNESCO stall during UN Day celebrations on October 31, 2023 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Dhaka

"To the young women from marginalized communities in Bangladesh, I would like to say that your background does not define your future. Education is your most powerful tool for change. Believe in your ability to overcome barriers and seize every opportunity to learn and grow. Stand firm in your aspirations, and remember, every step forward is a step toward transforming not just your life but your entire community," encourages Bipasha.

Looking ahead, she seeks to continue her involvement in UN organizations, pursue further studies abroad, and utilize her skills and experiences to contribute meaningfully to both her community and the global stage. Her journey reminds us of the power of resilience and the impact of education in transcending boundaries, making her story not only noteworthy for its achievements but also for its potential to inspire future generations at IUB and beyond. •



Didar A Husain Elected Chairman of The IUB Board of Trustees

Trustee Didar A Husain

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) is pleased to announce that Mr. Didar A Husain, a founding trustee, has been elected to be the Chairman of the IUB Board of Trustees for the year 2024-25.

Mr. Husain, while a freshman at the University of Dhaka, answered the call to join the War of Liberation. He was commissioned as an officer in the 1st War Course of the Bangladesh Army on October 9, 1971, posted to 10 East Bengal. The Liberation War Museum attests to his and his colleagues' gallantry at Belonia.

Leaving the army as a Major in 1981, he entered the textile business in New Asia and was a Vice President of Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) during 2005-2006. Presently, he is the Chairman of Rahim Textile Mills Limited. Besides, he is the Managing Director and Chairman of joint venture companies PCS Bangladesh Private Limited and Cannon Pest Management Bangladesh Private Limited respectively. He is honoured to be a member of the National Council of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh.

Mr. Husain is empathetic about teamwork and hard work and wishes to contribute to IUB's pursuit of excellence.

Earlier in December 2023, the Education, Science, Technology, and Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT), the founding trust of IUB, announced the election and formation of the Board of Trustees for the term 2024-25.

The other members of the board are Mr. A K Ashrafuddin Ahmed, Dr. Husne Ara Ali, Mr. Rashed Chowdhury, Mr. A Matin Chowdhury, Mr. Ismail Dobash, Mr. Javed Hosein, Mr. Mirza Salman Ispahani, Mr. Altamash Kabir, Mr. A H A Rasheed Khan, Mrs. Salma Karim, Mr. A Quaiyum Khan, Mr. Mohammad Zakaria Khan, Mrs. Yasmine Z. Mahmud, Mr. Wajid Ali Khan Panni, Mr. Saifur Rahman, Mr. Abdul Hai Sarker, Mr. Altaf Hossain Sarker, Mr. Towhid Samad and Architect Nilufer Zafarullah. •

Nushrat Explores Intelligent Imaging to Study Uterine Peristalsis in Japan



Nushrat Afroz Roza at the University of Hyogo, Japan

Nushrat Afroz Roza, a student of Computer Science and Engineering at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), is conducting research in Japan on advanced intelligent imaging technologies for studying uterine peristalsis. Her work focuses on the implications of Cesarean Scar Syndrome treatment on reproductive functions, under the guidance of professors from the University of Hyogo and IUB.

Uterine peristalsis refers to the rhythmic contraction of the muscles in the uterus. This involuntary movement is a fundamental aspect of the female reproductive system and plays several crucial roles such as menstruation, fertility, implantation and childbirth.

Her study is based on earlier research works, which found that understanding the workings and impacts of uterine peristalsis in different stages through highly advanced imaging technology can ensure advanced care for women and help prevent future reproductive issues.

Starting in September 2023, Nushrat, an undergraduate student of IUB, is currently pursuing a one-year research program at the University of Hyogo in Japan on this very technology. Supported by a Japanese government scholarship known as "Student Study Abroad for Research," Nushrat's research is titled "Infertility diagnosis after cesarean section using uterine CineMR images."

The research explores the potential impact of Cesarean Scar Syndrome (CSS) treatment on uterine peristalsis, with the aim of revealing correlations with subsequent pregnancy outcomes. Nushrat is being jointly supervised by Professor Dr. Syoji Kobashi from the University of Hyogo and Associate Professor Dr. Saadia Binte Alam from IUB.

"Since the program commenced, I have been balancing between feelings of homesickness and my determination to make the most of this extraordinary opportunity," said Nurshrat, who is living away from her family for the first time in her life.

"I have been given specific areas on uterus images by medical experts to study. From there, I have gathered data about their intensity and changes over time. My goal is to use this information to compare and understand the differences in patients with and without a condition called CSS, both before and after they receive treatment," she added.

The research also aims to distinguish between cases with and without CSS, clarifying characteristic differences in CineMR imaging. Alongside, a deep learning model is under development to forecast pregnancy outcomes and provide insights into correlations between peristaltic patterns, surgeries, and successful pregnancies.

True to Japan's tradition of high research standards and meticulous work ethic, she is facing a highly competitive research environment. However, helpful colleagues and peers have been making things easy for her.

"I think I have adapted to the Japanese cultural trait of perfection and punctuality quite well. Sometimes I also marvel at how safe the country is for its residents to move about freely regardless of age and gender," she said.

However, Nushrat has not been all work only and no play. She has made new friends and travels around a lot. She describes Japan as a tourist haven with rich cultural heritage preserved over a millennium, and abundant with scenic natural elements for outdoor activities enthusiasts. She has also become quite fond of the local cuisine.

Farheen Khan, Director of International Programs & Relations at IUB, said, "Nushrat is the first student to qualify for this prestigious one-year research program at the University of Hyogo, Japan. It is especially rewarding for us as she was a recipient of the Japanese government's HUMAP [Hyogo University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific] scholarship that enables and encourages foreign students from partner universities to spend time expanding their academic and professional skills in Japan."

Nushrat's post-return plans involve fulfilling IUB's graduation criteria, defending her thesis, and publishing findings from her study at the University of Hyogo. Intent on integrating new research techniques, she envisions fostering collaboration between the two universities.

Post-graduation, she prioritizes publishing, leveraging connections for collaborations, and seamlessly integrating methodologies into ongoing academic work. Her career alignment with research interests is guided by self-reflection for holistic personal and professional growth.•

IUB Retains Top Spot as Bangladesh's Best Private University in AD Scientific Index

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) has retained its spot as the leading private university in Bangladesh in the AD Scientific Index 2024 in terms of total number of citations of Scopus-indexed publications by faculty members.

IUB has also retained the second position among all private institutions in the country, trailing only behind ICDDR,B. Furthermore, the university has ranked 3rd among all public and private institutions in Bangladesh, moving up one place from the previous year, currently trailing only behind ICDDR,B and the University of Dhaka.

Since February 2023, IUB has consistently maintained its position in the ADSI ranking. Last year, IUB was ranked first among private universities, second among all private institutions and 4th among all institutions in Bangladesh.

The AD Scientific Index (ADSI), a global ranking system, evaluates over 22,350 universities worldwide based solely on the caliber of their "Valued and Productive Scientists". The ADSI primarily utilizes Google Scholar profiles for its assessments. The ADSI, known for its dynamic updating process every 30 to 60 days, noted IUB's improvement in its latest update on January 6, 2024.

Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, said, "I am proud and delighted to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our faculty. This consistent recognition distinctly underscores the dedication and exceptional caliber of our faculty at IUB. We are committed to ensuring a supportive and resource-rich environment in advancing the research endeavors of our faculty members."

He also said, "Over the last three years, we have taken significant steps to offer both organizational support and financial incentives, encouraging our faculty to engage in cutting-edge research. During this period, we added 59 PhD-holders to our existing roster, bringing the total number of PhD-qualified faculty at IUB to 108. This accolade is therefore a manifestation of our collective, organization-wide efforts and exemplifies our continued commitment to academic excellence."

According to ADSI, as of January 2024, IUB's top performing faculty in terms of the number of citations of their Scopus-indexed publications are Prof. Mamun Bin Ibne Reaz, PhD, Prof. Shah M Faruque, PhD, Prof. Md Abdul Khaleque, PhD, Prof. Niaz Ahmed Khan, PhD, Mustafa Habib Chowdhury, PhD, Prof. Md Mamun Habib, PhD, Ferdows Zahid, PhD, K Ayaz Rabbani, PhD, Ashrafus Safa, PhD, Prof. J M A Hannan, PhD, Amin Ahsan Ali, PhD, Khan Muhammad Bin Asad, PhD, Md Kafiul Islam, PhD, Prof. Md Ashraful Amin, PhD, Md Mahmodul Hasan Sohel, PhD, Ikramul Hasan, PhD, Prof. Md Abdur Razzak, PhD, Prof. Khosru Mohammad Salim, PhD and Prof. Feroz Ahmed, PhD. •

BSc. in EEE Program Secures 5-Year BAETE-IEB Accreditation

The BSc. in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) program at IUB has received accreditation renewal for a remarkable 5-year period from the Board of Accreditation for Engineering and Education (BAETE) under the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), Dhaka, making it the lengthiest term ever for an EEE program in Bangladesh.

The renewal, spanning from 2024 to 2029 under the latest BAETE Manual version 2.1, highlights the program's commitment to excellence in engineering education. The renewal process, anchored by the Self-Assessment Report (SAR), meticulously evaluated the program across ten criteria, including Organization and Governance, Financial and Physical Resources, Faculty, Students, Academic Facilities, Curriculum, Teaching-Learning Process, Program Educational Objectives, Program Outcomes and Assessment, Continuous Quality Improvement, and Interaction with the Industry.

Aligned with the Washington Accord's Graduate Attributes, the program also upholds 12 Program Outcomes (POs) as stipulated by BAETE: Cognitive, Psychomotor, and Affective domains, emphasizing graduates' abilities to tackle complex engineering problems. A three-member BAETE evaluation team conducted a comprehensive assessment during their visit at IUB campus from December 13-15, 2023, scrutinizing all aspects of the program to ensure alignment with accreditation standards. •

Remembering Dr. A Majeed Khan



Trustees, members of the university management and faculty, and guests unveil "An Introductory Reader: Bangladesh National Culture and Heritage," a publication co-edited by Dr. Khan, on March 5, 2024 at the IUB Auditorium

The IUB family organized a series of poignant events to honor the memory of its Founder President and President Emeritus, Dr. A Majeed Khan, who passed away on April 26, 2023. In a fitting tribute to his profound legacy, IUB organized a significant memorial event on March 5, 2024, at the IUB Auditorium. This event convened trustees, the Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, alumni, faculty, and staff to collectively celebrate Dr. Khan's transformative impact on education and his indelible mark on the institution.

The commemoration featured heartfelt tributes and the unveiling of "An Introductory Reader: Bangladesh National Culture and Heritage," a publication co-edited by Dr. Khan. This work meticulously highlights the rich cultural heritage of Bangladesh. Additionally, a mural dedicated to Dr. Khan was inaugurated in the DMK Building, named in his honor, symbolizing his enduring influence on the university.

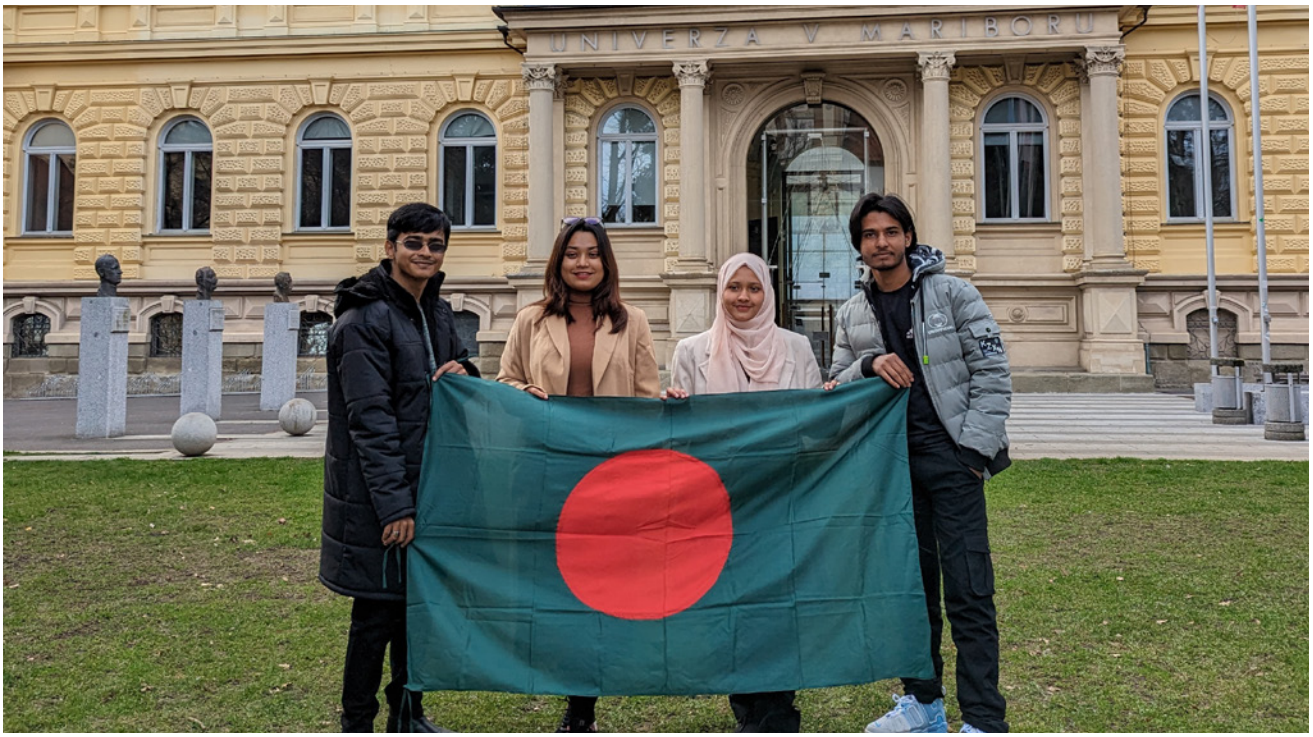
A memorial book was also introduced, containing thoughtful contributions from various members of the IUB community and distinguished personalities. These contributions reflect on Dr. Khan's visionary leadership and his significant contributions to higher education in Bangladesh, illustrating the depth of his impact.

In an earlier tribute, on December 2, 2023, an IUB delegation visited Dr. Khan's grave in Boalmari, Faridpur, to pay respects and offer prayers. This delegation also honored Ms. Elina Khan, Dr. Khan's daughter, acknowledging the family's deep and profound association with the university. The series of events served not only as a remembrance but also as a celebration of Dr. Khan's lasting legacy within the educational landscape of Bangladesh. •



Trustees, members of the university management and faculty, and guests pose for a photograph after the unveiling of Dr. Khan's mural on March 5, 2024

Expanding Global Academic Horizons



The four students from the School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE), who went to the University of Maribor, Solvenia under the Erasmus+ Mobility Program in February 2024 pose for a photograph

IUB is actively expanding its global educational affiliations through strategic international exchange, student and faculty semester abroad mobility programs, robust academic partnerships with reputed higher education institutions, and the recruitment of distinguished foreign faculty. IUB currently has 15 international students and offers attractive scholarships and bursaries for all prospective international undergraduate and postgraduate students. These efforts highlight IUB's commitment to internationalization, aiming to provide its community with comprehensive global exposure and create a diverse educational environment.

In January 2024, five students from the School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences (SETS) participated in a student mobility program at the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) in Tamil Nadu, India. Mohammed Showharwade Neshad and Fuad Hossain from Computer Science and Engineering, and Naima Alam Zikra, MD Fardin Islam, and Israt Jahan from Physical Sciences will study advanced coursework until May.

Simultaneously, Zayan Zaman from Computer Science and Engineering, and Fahim Shahriar from Law, began their semester study abroad at Shoolini University, Himachal Pradesh, India, in January 2024 focusing on Software



Five students from the School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences (SETS) went to the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), India in Janaury 2024



Dr. Nagesh Rao



Dr. Xingkui Wang



Madoka Sasada

Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, and law subjects.

In February 2024, four students from the School of Business and Entrepreneurship at IUB joined in the Erasmus+ Mobility Program in the University of Maribor, Slovenia. Tamim Forhad Shuvo, Punno Bikash Aaone, Maisha Tabassum, and Jannatul Ferdousy are engaging in finance and human resources studies under both funded and zero-grant scholarships.

Additionally, IUB and Kobe College in Nishinomiya, Hyōgo, Japan, signed a Student Exchange Agreement in February 2024, enabling two students to exchange annually, which was formalized by IUB Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD and Kobe College President Keiichi Nakano, Rev. Dr.

In April, the Global Studies and Governance Department welcomed Ms. Madoka Sasada as the first Visiting Research Intern from Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan. Collaborating with the Thanapara Swallows Development Society in Rajshahi, her research on community insurance for handicrafts - supported by a Matsushita Foundation scholarship - emphasizes fair trade and gender equality.

Foreign faculty recruitment efforts brought Dr. Nagesh Rao from the USA and Dr. Xingkui Wang from China to the Department of English and Modern Languages in January and April, respectively. Dr. Rao brings a rich background in literary theory and Kashmiri politics, while Dr. Wang offers expertise in philosophy, art history, and literature, enriching the department's offerings in history and civilization, as well as academic writing. •



Two students from Departments of Computer Science and Engineering and Law began their study abroad at Shoolini University, India in January 2024



Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, delivers Prof. Saleemul Huq Memorial Lecture at IUB on April 16, 2024

PROF. SALEEMUL HUQ MEMORIAL LECTURE

Forced Choice between Development and Adaptation Unjust

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) hosted the Prof. Saleemul Huq Memorial Lecture titled "Promoting Climate Justice: Roles of Courts and Youth" on April 16, 2024 at the IUB Auditorium in Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka. The memorial lectures were delivered by Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; and Professor Dr. César Rodríguez-Garavito from New York University School of Law.

Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, spoke on Promoting Climate Justice through Youth Engagement. He said, "We had the least to do with the creation of the problem, and yet we are the most impacted. So, that is injustice any way you look at it. The other aspect is we are forced to adapt beyond our capacity. That is also injustice. We are also being forced to choose between development — investment in health, infrastructure, education, IT, training, capacity building — and investing in trying to protect our people from the impacts of climate change. That is yet another injustice."

He also said, "We planted a million trees all over Bangladesh on the centenary of our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. But the mortality rate [of trees] is high; we will lose 30% of the trees in the first year. But there's still 70% left. Can we get young people to adopt a tree? You water the tree, you see it grow. This is how we have environmental stewardship."

"We don't want the young generation to just listen; we also want to listen to them. We want to see young men and women have a seat at the table. We want them to be partners in implementation. We also want them to do an audit on the value and impact of that implementation. That completes the whole cycle," he added.

About Dr. Huq, his longtime compatriot in the global fight against climate change, the minister said, "He has inspired a



Professor Dr. César Rodríguez-Garavito from the New York University School of Law delivers lecture at IUB on April 16, 2024



IUB Trustees, senior management, faculty, guests, dignitaries and organizers pose for a photograph before the Prof. Saleemul Huq Memorial Lecture on April 16, 2024

climate generation in Bangladesh. Many of the people I see in the audience today have been touched by his sincerity, commitment and an outstanding ability to convince people, especially when he talked about climate science and attribution — the fact that loss and damage are caused by human action."

Professor Rodriguez-Garavito focused on Promoting Climate Justice through Litigations. He said, "Last week, the Swiss women's association, KlimaSeniorinnen, won the first ever case on climate change before the European Court of Human Rights. So, one of the most prestigious regional human rights courts have now said clearly and unequivocally that not doing enough against climate change is a violation of human rights. Heatwaves, cyclones, floods, sea-level rise — these are all massive violations of human rights."

He also said, "The youth movement had provided the energy, moral passion and the impetus that had driven most of the achievements in climate governance. The law and social mobilization — the youth movement and the use of creative, expansive and rigorous use of the law — go hand in hand."

Reminiscing his interaction with Prof. Saleemul Huq during the COP27 in Egypt in 2022, Prof. Rodriguez-Garavito said, "One of the things that struck me very deeply was that I had access to him through the leaders of the youth movement. It was not like he was always hanging out with the celebrities and the personalities."

Md. Nojibur Rahman, former Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister; Dr. Farhina Ahmed, Secretary, MoEFCC; Dr. Ainun Nishat, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University; Syeda Rizwana Hasan, Chief Executive, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA); Tanweer Hasan, PhD, Vice Chancellor, IUB; Advocate M. Hafijul Islam Khan, Director, Center for Climate Justice-Bangladesh; and Saqib Huq, Managing Director at IUB's International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) also spoke at the event. Professor Dr. Borhan Uddin Khan, Advisor to IUB's Department of Law, moderated the event.

The event was a collaborative effort among IUB's Departments of Law and Environmental Science and Management; ICCCAD; Centre for Climate Justice Bangladesh; Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at NYU School of Law; Bangladesh Environment and Development Society (BEDS); Friendship; World's Youth for Climate Justice; and Local Conference of Youth Bangladesh.

Leading global climate scientist Prof. Dr. Saleemul Huq passed away in Dhaka on October 28, 2023 at the age of 71. He was a Professor at the Department of Environmental Science and Management and Founder Director at the International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) of IUB. Recognized by Nature as one of the top ten scientists of 2022, Dr. Huq has played a significant role in the IPCC reports and served as an adviser to the LDC group in the UNFCCC. He was awarded the 2020 National Environment Award by Bangladesh and appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 2022. •

The First National Female Squash Tournament Brings 60 Players from Across The Country



Participants of the 1st Bangladesh Female Squash Tournament 2024 pose for a photograph with IUB senior management and the organizers on February 28, 2024 at the IUB Squash Court

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) hosted the country's first national female squash tournament, titled "IUB Presents 1st Bangladesh Female Squash Tournament 2024," on February 28-29, 2024. The newly inaugurated squash court at IUB's campus became the venue for this historic competition, which saw the participation of 60 female athletes from across the country, including ten from the underprivileged districts of Gopalganj and Khagrachari.

The tournament, supported by the Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation, featured competitions across four age categories: under 9, 11, 14, and open. The event culminated in a prize distribution ceremony on February 29, attended by luminaries such as IUB Board of Trustees Chairman Mr. Didar A Husain, Trustee Mr. A Quaiyum Khan, Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, Prothom Alo's Chief Sports Editor Mr. Utpal Shuvro, and Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation Secretary General Brig. Gen. G M Quamrul Islam (Retd.).

This initiative not only highlights IUB's commitment to promoting female sports but also aligns with Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan's vision of IUB students leading the Bangladesh squash team in the 2028 Olympics. The university's investment in a professional squash court and offering full scholarships to promising athletes like Riyajul Zannat Urdho, a national team member and the open category runner-up, underlines its dedication to nurturing sporting excellence.

IUB's state-of-the-art sports facilities, including the squash court and swimming pool inaugurated on January 31, 2024, signify a major leap towards establishing a comprehensive sports culture within the educational landscape of Bangladesh. The university's proactive steps in sports education and athlete development set a new benchmark for academic institutions nationwide, promising a brighter future for female athletes in the country. •



Trustees, senior management, faculty, staff and guests pose for a photograph with student swimmers and guests on January 31, 2024

Int'l Women's Day Celebrated with Four Renowned Business Leaders



IUB celebrated the International Women's Day on March 10, 2024 with four renowned business leaders

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) celebrated International Women's Day with a landmark event titled "Inclusion for National Goals: Ladies in Leadership" at the IUB Auditorium in Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka on March 10, 2024.

The event celebrated the remarkable achievements of women leaders in the forefront of Bangladesh's business landscape. It served as a platform for motivating and inspiring female students, faculty, and staff at IUB, providing them with insights and experiences from some of the nation's most distinguished women in business.

Among the speakers were Shusmita Anis, Managing Director of ACI Formulations Limited; Sarah Ali, Managing Director of FCB Bitopi; Rubaba Dowla, Country Managing Director of Oracle Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan; and Rupali Chowdhury, Managing Director of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited. These leaders shared their journeys, shedding light on the challenges and triumphs they encountered on their paths to success.

Shusmita Anis said, "Self-confidence for women, especially in environments predominantly occupied by men, some of whom are seniors and hold PhDs, can be challenged. The key to achieving consistent growth in such scenarios lies in continuously learning, understanding, and adapting."

Sarah Ali said, "Women should focus on building big careers, having high ambitions, and going for big things! Neither family nor career has to be compromised; both can be simultaneously maintained with determination."

To the female students of IUB, Rubaba Dowla said, "It is important for women to never let obstacles or hurdles stop them and to always help each other on their paths. I wish for all of you to be able to reach your dreams, achieve your goals, and always believe in yourselves."

Rupali Chowdhury said, "It is important to stay relevant, for which technological know-how has become essential for everyone, especially for women. Therefore, we need to continuously learn and ask questions. The minds that question, do not give up, and that is very important."

IUB Trustee Dr. Husne Ara Ali said being a wife, mother, amateur artist, and writer, she had always prioritized the development of IUB above everything else. However, she did not neglect any of her duties while doing so. Instead, she learned that with a bit of determination and clever management, fulfilling all her responsibilities was not hard at all. If she could achieve this, then all women everywhere could do it too.

Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, said, "At IUB, we have developed specific academic programs and infrastructural facilities to attract female students to our university. We believe that if such gender inclusivity — in terms of student enrollment, faculty recruitment, and leadership positions — is practiced by all universities in the country, there will be no stopping us from achieving our national goals."

Didar A Husain, Chairman, Board of Trustees, IUB; Salma Karim, Member, Board of Trustees; and Prof. Niaz Ahmed Khan, PhD, Pro Vice Chancellor, also spoke at the program. The event was moderated by Naureen Rahnuma, PhD, Assistant Professor and Head of the Department of English and Modern Languages at IUB. Following the speeches, the guests took part in a lively question-answer session with IUB students. •



Prof. Ahsanuzzaman interviewed Jon Fosse, winner of the 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature, at a restaurant in Oslo, Norway in 2007

An Afternoon with Jon Fosse

Professor Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman, PhD
Department of English and Modern Languages
Independent University, Bangladesh

The 2023 Nobel Prize for Literature went to Norwegian writer Jon Olav Fosse (b. 1959) for "writing innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable" (the citation). In an instant reaction, the Nobel Laureate said "the prize was recognition of 'literature that first and foremost aims to be literature, without other considerations'" (AP, Oct 5, 2023). Every inch an artist, Fosse, has always been conscious of his role as an artist and the art he creates. As early as 1997, he declared: "I want to make it clear that for me as a playwright it is impossible to write with 'social consciousness', as they say, while also writing good drama" (quoted in Leif Zern, Nordic Literature, 2004). To write good drama, and for that matter, to produce quality literature has always topped his agenda — marks of which are evident in his earliest work, Red, Black (1983) as well as in Septology published in 2022. I was fortunate to meet Fosse at his temporary lodging in an Oslo hotel near Det Norske Teatret on October 27, 2007. Fosse took me to a restaurant nearby where we discussed his notion of art and literature. What follows is a truncated version of the interview published on 31 January 2008 in bdnews24.com.

Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman (AA): As you know, Jon, I'm here in Oslo to do an MPhil in Ibsen Studies. Ibsen is one of my favourite playwrights, and to an extent also my obsession. Ibsen is your glorious predecessor. How would you evaluate "the father of modern drama"?

Jon Fosse (JF): In Norway people read Ibsen at school. I too read him in my tender years, and I must confess that I found him rather stiff in those days. However, with the years I realized how disturbing and demonic he could be. And then he has that dark wisdom. I don't love Ibsen; but I am his big admirer.

AA: Isn't it a contradiction in terms that you admire Ibsen, but you don't love him? Could you please elaborate on that?

JF: What I wanted to say is that I don't have any doubt that Ibsen is one of the greatest playwrights of the world and that he is second only to Shakespeare. But what I object to is his sacrifice of the

poetic self for the so-called causes of society. The poet in Ibsen that we find in *Brand*, or in *Peer Gynt*, a play which I've translated into New Norwegian, and which was staged by Robert Wilson in 2005, is not to be traced in his later plays. This is inevitable when one writes with "social consciousness" upon his back. If the concerns of society enter your work automatically, it's fine. But a writer should not be at all bothered about it.

> **"I explore human relationships, and in doing so, I may have occasionally betrayed Fosse, the individual.**

AA: How do you look at Shakespeare?

JF: Shakespeare is at the centre of European tradition, and European literature without Shakespeare just doesn't make any sense to me. If there were no Shakespeare, there would have been no Ibsen.

AA: Leif Zern termed you as "an alien" in the world of theatre because you were rather reluctant to come to theatre. Indeed, you made your debut as a playwright with *And Never Shall We be Parted* in 1994. Now that you have been in theatre for over a decade with might, how will you account for your "alien" status?

JF: Yes, I entered the theatre rather late. I was writing poetry, I was writing novels, I was writing essays. And I enjoyed doing them. It just didn't occur to me that I would write for the theatre. Then I was asked to write for it, and I found out that writing for theatre was a different kind of experience, an experience which I had begun to love. So that's how it was and is.

AA: Does Fosse figure in Fosse's works?

JF: I would say, no. But then you know, I've experienced which my characters also experience. I explore human relationships, and in doing so, I may have occasionally betrayed Fosse, the individual.

AA: Your fiction employs the first-person narrative technique; the dialogue in your drama is sheer monologue. And it's a wonder how you manage to create a poetic language out of ordinary, everyday utterances.

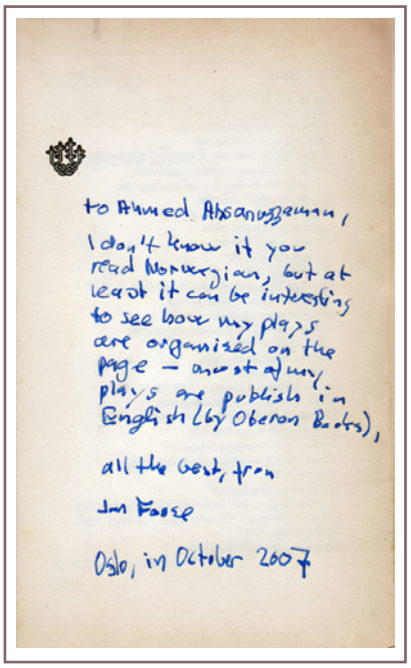
JF: I am always concerned about the rhythm of the language in my work. It's like a piece of painting. I'm painting through metaphors. Every word has its special importance. They need to be arranged in much the same way shades and colours are arranged in a painting. The lasting impression of a painting is that it's a poem. My characters speak poetically because it's my reconstruction of the language I hear or think. The reconstruction of oral language means for me that it will have to be realistic and at the same time artificial, a feature one notices also in Ibsen.

AA: You are often called a post-modernist because of your gifted use of Derrida's concept of "absence" in your fiction. Your response?

JF: I don't know exactly if I'm a postmodernist. But Derrida was obviously an early influence. I read him extensively, and influenced by Derrida's theory of writing I submitted my master's thesis on the theory of novel.

AA: If you were asked to choose two writers, whom will you go for?

JF: My compatriot, though little known to the world outside, Olav H Hague. He, in one sense, inspired my collection of poems, *Angel with Water in His Eyes*, published in 1986. And the other is one of the heavyweights of world literature, Samuel Beckett.


to Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman,
I don't know if you read Norwegian, but at least it can be interesting to see how my plays are organized on the page – most of my plays are published in English (by Oberon Books),
all the best, from
Jon Fosse
Oslo, in October 2007

Fosse's inscription on his book, Teaterstykke 1, he gifted to Prof. Ahsanuzzaman during their meeting

AA: Once you wrote, "But who am I then, who is supposed to be Jon Fosse?" It is one of the questions that disturbs every creative individual at a certain point in his career. The answer to the question is, of course, difficult to get by. You have been on the lookout for it all these years. How do you feel about it?

JF: Yes, it's a question related to my existence as a writer. I don't have an answer yet.

AA: Thank you so much for giving me your time.

JF: Thank you too. •

Narratives Unbound: Revisiting Partition's Legacy



Professor Dr. Fakrul Alam delivered the inaugural Sasheen Annual Lecture organized by SCMLE at IUB on February 7, 2024

Through the crucible of three partitions, Bangladesh's national identity has been forged and re-forged, with literature, art, and cinema serving as the smithies of our collective consciousness. These mediums offer not just a lens to view our layered past of loss, grief, and trauma but also a mirror reflecting the intricate mosaic of who we are.

These themes were highlighted by Bangla Academy Literary Award winning author, translator and critic Professor Dr. Fakrul Alam during a lecture he delivered at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) on February 7, 2024. Prof. Alam is the Bangabandhu Chair at the Department of History, University of Dhaka, and Honorary Advisor to the Sasheen Center for Multilingual Excellence (SCMLE) and the Department of English and Modern Languages, IUB.

The lecture, titled "The 1947 Partition from a Thrice-Partitioned National Perspective," was the inaugural session of the Sasheen Annual Lecture organized by SCMLE. The annual lectures aim to host leading figures in the fields of literary studies, linguistics, education, anthropology, cultural and communication studies, and beyond to build an interdisciplinary atmosphere at IUB underlined by liberal arts ethos.

Prof. Alam, who translated Bangbandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Unfinished Memoirs, Prison Diaries, Ocean of Sorrow, Bishad Sindhu, Gitanjali and a host of Jibananada Das's poems, said in his lecture that the historical relevance of the three partitions would never be obsolete. Beginning with the "originary and short-lived partition" of 1905, Prof. Alam talked about how partition has been depicted in literary and cinematic forms with reference to 1947 and 1971 partitions.

In Professor Alam's speech, it became evident how literary scholars and filmmakers give us lenses to deal with loss, grief, trauma from many dimensions and make us aware of who we are. It is this ability to see all those opaque things and acknowledge insightfully as they shape our identity.

Mr. Tanvir Mokammel, renowned filmmaker and author, and Razia Sultana Khan, PhD, Advisor to IUB's Department of English and Modern Languages (DEML), took part in a discussion on the lecture. Mr. Didar A Husain, Chairman, Board of Trustees, IUB; Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD; and Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Niaz Ahmed Khan, PhD, also spoke at the program.

Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman, PhD, Professor at DEML, introduced the keynote speaker. Mahmud Hasan Khan, PhD, Executive Director of SCMLE and Professor at DEML, moderated the event. Alongside IUB students, faculty and staff, a good number of noted personalities, and faculties and students from other universities attended the program. •

SLASS and SBE Welcome New Faculty Members

School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences



Prof. A I Mahbub Uddin, PhD
Adjunct Faculty
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Prof. Sarder Aminul Islam
Adjunct Faculty
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Naznin Akter Banu, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Md. Ilias Kamal Risat, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Md. Reza Habib, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Nazia Mahmood, PhD
Senior Lecturer
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Shejuti Nure Maksurat
Lecturer
Department of Social Science and Humanities



Sultana Razia, PhD
Senior Lecturer
Global Studies and Governance Department



Firoza Ashravee
Lecturer
Global Studies and Governance Department

School of Business and Entrepreneurship



Md. Tanvir Islam
Lecturer B
Department of Accounting



Afnan Yusuf
Lecturer B
Department of General Management



Hasibur Rahman Abir
Lecturer B
Department of General Management



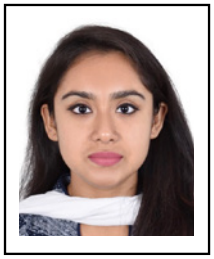
Nahida Akhter Naiema
Lecturer B
Department of General Management



Effat Binte Kabir
Lecturer B
Department of Human Resource Management



Nabila Kamal Promy
Lecturer B
Department of Human Resource Management



Tarannum Azim
Lecturer B
Department of International Business



Md Azzajur Rahman
Lecturer B
Department of Marketing



Nahin Sultana
Lecturer B
Department of Marketing

Students Put on Impressive Show in Sports and Gaming



Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan shares a cheerful moment with participants during the opening ceremony of the Basketball Winter Camp on February 3, 2024

In a series of recent events, IUB students have continued to demonstrate significant accomplishments in various sports and gaming competitions, both at home and internationally.

Basketball

The basketball team achieved runners-up status in the Nepal-Bangladesh University Cup 2024, their first international competition, held from March 8-12. The team, composed of students from various departments, excelled in the Nepal Basketball Association Open 3x3 Tournament before advancing to the finals, where they narrowly lost to Times International College with a score of 56-51. Their performance was praised by notable figures, including the President of the Nepal Basketball Association.

A 10-day Basketball Winter Camp was held from February 3-12 at the IUB Sports Complex. Aimed at enhancing the skills of both female and male basketball teams, the camp featured prominent attendees, including Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan and basketball dignitaries. The camp's success was credited to the players' dedication and support from faculty and significant figures in the basketball community.

Chess

The chess team, Team IUB Mittens, won the 2023 Autumn Collegiate Chess League, a two-month online event hosted by Chess.com. Competing against over 290 global universities, the team, guided by Grandmaster Niaz Murshed, achieved top honors after beating the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur in the final. Team members included students from diverse academic backgrounds, with Amit Bikram Roy, a student of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) and member of the ARROWS Program, scoring the highest board points.

In January, Amit became unbeaten champion in the Chess Track Standard Chess Tournament 2024.



Members of the IUB Chess Team, who participated in the 2023 Autumn Collegiate Chess League



The IUB Men's Basketball Team took part in multiple competitions in Nepal in March 2024

He beat all his opponents to score a perfect five points out of a possible five. Organized by Chess Track Chess Club in Uttara, Dhaka the tournament attracted 40 participants. Amit, with a previous rating of 1779, showcased strategic brilliance, resulting in an impressive live rating of 1815.

The 2nd Intra-IUB Chess Tournament concluded on March 26, 2024, featuring faculty and students at IUB's Multipurpose Hall. Faculty member Sajed Imtenanul Haque won the faculty segment, while student Amit Bikram Roy led among students. The event highlighted IUB's commitment to chess, showcasing strategic skills and promoting inclusivity with recognitions across various participants.

Badminton

The IUB Badminton Club concluded its Intra-School Badminton Championship 2024 on February 1, after five days of competition at the IUB Sports Complex in Dhaka. Students from IUB's five schools competed in various categories, with Team Noorista and Team Terminator from SBE standing out by securing titles in Women's Singles and Mixed Doubles, respectively. The event showcased exceptional skills and sportsmanship across all categories, highlighting IUB's athletic spirit.

Gaming

The IUB Gaming Fest Season 2, held from February 4-6, 2024, at Independent University, Bangladesh, attracted over 1,500 gaming enthusiasts from IUB and over 100 educational institutions. The event featured competitions in Valorant, DOTA 2, EA FC 24, and Street Fighter 6, with support from Prime Bank and BYDESA. Highlights included performances by the IUB Dance Club and bands End Faze and Odd Signature, alongside a meet and greet with content creator Anisul Islam Boby. Esteemed guests including Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan praised the event, emphasizing gaming's potential and alignment with IUB's empowerment strategies.

Cricket

The IUB Cricket Club claimed the 2nd Runner-Up title at the 14th ULAB Fair Play Cup Cricket 2024, held at ULAB main campus from February 5 to March 5. Dominating the group stage, IUB won against Dhaka International University, Uttara University, and SouthEast University, but narrowly lost in the semifinals to Daffodil International University by just 4 runs. They secured their position by defeating BUBT in an intense match. Standout players included Sourav Das, the highest run-scorer and best fielder, and Aman Ullah, who scored a critical fifty. The team showcased strong batting and bowling throughout, highlighted by Angon Pandey's hat-trick and Nasif Hasan Palak's all-round performance, under Coach Maruf Reza Sunny's leadership. •



The IUB Cricket Club claimed the 2nd Runner-Up title at the 14th ULAB Fair Play Cup Cricket 2024 held from February 5 to March 5, 2024



A team of IUB students and staff places a floral wreath at the National Martyrs' Memorial in Savar, near Dhaka on December 16, 2024 on the ocassion of the Victory Day



IUB students perform a dance number during the colorful Boshonto Utshob organized on the campus on February 14, 2024



IUB senior management, staff, faculty and students bring out a barefooted procession on campus on the ocassion of the International Mother Lanauge Day and National Martyrs' Day on February 21, 2024



A team of IUB students and staff places a floral wreath at the mural of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Dhanmondi, Dhaka on March 17, 2024



The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) hosted TechFest Spring 2024 Award Ceremony with renowned industry leaders on April 17, 2024



The automated underwater vehicle made by Team IUB BongoMarine that finished in the top 15 in the Singapore Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Competition 2024 in April

23 Non-engineering Faculties Complete Basic Python Training

A total of 23 faculty members of IUB have successfully completed a basic Python programming course, aimed at enhancing their digital skills under the university's "Coding for All" initiative. The training was conducted in two batches, with the first group comprising 10 faculty from various departments including Global Studies and Governance, Management Information Systems, Development Studies, Life Sciences, and Pharmacy during the Autumn 2023 semester.



Faculties take lessons on Python as part of the "Coding for All" initiative

The second batch included 13 faculty members from a broader range of disciplines such as Environmental Science and Management, Social Science and Humanities, English and Modern Languages, Economics, International Business, Marketing, and Pharmacy.

The certificate ceremony for the first batch was held on December 21, 2023, at the Center for Cognitive Skill Enhancement (CCSE) laboratory. Tanweer Hasan, PhD, Vice Chancellor of IUB; Prof. Meherun Ahmed, PhD, Dean of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship; and Prof. Mamun Bin Ibne Reaz, PhD, Dean of the School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences, attended the event.

The four-week workshops, titled "Automate your day with Python," were designed to equip participants with practical Python programming skills, focussing on automating everyday tasks, such as sending personalized mass emails, organizing files, and handling data in Excel spreadsheets.

Professor Mahmud Hasan Khan, PhD, from the Department of English and Modern Languages and Executive Director at the Sasheen Centre for Multilingual Excellence, who participated in the first batch, said, "I wanted to know more about how to use Python to study Big Data. As a linguistic researcher, I work with huge volumes of text including interviews, transcripts, and manuscripts. At the workshop, I got the basic idea about how to use Python to set the parameters for sentiment analysis."

> **"This initiative to train the faculties in addition to the students is part of IUB's broader effort to integrate digital skills into its academic environment.**

Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, proponent of the "Coding for All" initiative at IUB, said, "At IUB, we have a unique approach where every student, regardless of their field of study, is required to develop computer and coding skills. This strategy ensures that our students are adequately equipped to thrive in their careers in this age of rapid digital communication and connectivity, particularly considering the 4th Industrial Revolution."

"This initiative to train the faculties in addition to the students is part of IUB's broader effort to integrate digital skills into its academic environment. The course structure emphasizes real-world applications of programming, ensuring that the faculty members gain skills directly applicable to their academic and administrative roles," the Vice Chancellor added.

Launched in 2023, the "Coding for All" initiative has already seen several hundred students from different engineering and non-engineering departments receive coding training, marking a significant milestone in the university's commitment to digital literacy. •

Debaters Reach World Championship Quarterfinals

The IUB debate team achieved a significant milestone by advancing to the quarterfinals of the 2024 World Universities Debating Championship in Vietnam.

For the first time, IUB competitors, Ahmad Tousif Jami and Zobayer Ahmed, participated in the ESL category, competing against teams from prestigious institutions, including those from Ivy League universities. They tackled complex global issues under the British Parliamentary format, demonstrating profound knowledge and strategic debate skills. •

Law Students Triumph in Moot Court in India





Zakaria Islam and Asfi Fatima

A moot court team from the Department of Law clinched the "Best International Team Award" at the 12th Justice P N Bhagwati International Moot Court Competition on Human Rights. Held in Pune, India from March 21-23, 2024, the competition featured 50 teams from South Asia. The IUB team comprised Asfi Fatima and Zakaria Islam, reaching the advanced rounds as the only international team to do so. Their coach, Maimuna Syed Ahmed, attributed their success to meticulous preparation and a deep understanding of human rights law. •

Nishorgo Nondon Wins Gold Honour in Int'l Youth Math Challenge



Nishorgo Nondon

CSE student Nishorgo Nondon won the Gold Honour at the International Youth Math Challenge 2023, securing his place in the top 1% of over 13,000 participants from 98 countries. This is Nondon's second consecutive top placement, showcasing his consistent mathematical excellence. His achievement, alongside notable performances from other IUB students, reinforces the university's strong performance in global academic competitions. The IYMC, a prominent online math competition, encourages young mathematicians worldwide to excel in complex problem-solving and theoretical analysis. •

Economics and GSG Students Win SDG Policy Challenge

Students from the Departments of Economics and Global Studies and Governance secured first place in the 2023 SDG Policy Challenge. Their winning project, focused on biomass utilization in Fultala Upazila, Khulna, exemplified innovative approaches to sustainable development. The month-long event, sponsored by the Swedish Embassy in Dhaka, attracted 910 teams from across Bangladesh. The challenge was hosted by IUB's International Centre for Climate Change and Development. •

VC Wins NRB Day 2023 Award

Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, was awarded the NRB Day 2023 Award for his contributions to education in Bangladesh.

The award was presented by Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, former Minister for Foreign Affairs, at a ceremony held on National Expatriates Day on December 30, 2023. This accolade recognizes his efforts in elevating educational standards and his impact on the academic community at IUB. •

BGMEA President Stresses Practical Training



BGMEA President Faruque Hassan attends the Spring 2024 Orientation program of IUB on Janaury 18, 2024

During the Spring 2024 orientation, BGMEA President Faruque Hassan emphasized the need for practical training to bridge the gap between academia and industry demands. Addressing new students and faculty, Faruque Hassan advocated for enhanced internships and real-life industry engagements.

IUB BoT Chairman Didar A Husain and Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, encouraged students to leverage the university's robust academic and research environment.

The event also celebrated high achievers in the admission tests and included cultural performances. •

Academic Awards Recognizes Excellence



Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan, PhD, handing over certificate to a student during the Academic Awards Ceremony 2023 held on December 11, 2023

The Academic Awards Ceremony 2023 was held on December 11, 2023, recognizing the exceptional achievements of its students.

It was attended by Prof. Dr. Fakrul Alam and former IUB BoT Chairman Mr. Abdul Hai Sarker, who both commended the students for their hard work and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence. Highlighting a strategic focus on gender parity, Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan noted that 61% of the awardees were female, reflecting IUB's commitment to fostering an inclusive academic environment. •

7 Faculties Attend ICTP Program in Italy

A delegation of seven faculty members from the School of Engineering, Technology, and Sciences attended an advanced scientific program at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy. The program focused on FPGA-based Systems-on-Chip and their applications in scientific research, particularly in nuclear and particle physics. The event also provided opportunities for networking and sharing insights with global experts, reinforcing IUB's presence in the international academic community. •

Paper on Surveillance Published in Q1 Journal

A research paper by IUB faculty and alumni was published in the prestigious Journal of Network and Computer Applications, featuring a high impact factor of 8.7. The paper, titled "Semi-supervised, Neural Network based approaches to face mask and anomaly detection in surveillance networks," presents groundbreaking methods for enhancing surveillance efficiency. Started as an undergraduate thesis, this project was later expanded with contributions from global academic partners and tested for its practical implications, achieving remarkable accuracy in mask detection. This publication, dated December 7, 2023, highlights IUB's commitment to innovative research in response to contemporary global challenges. •

IUB Alum Naveed Named Global Sustainability Leader

IUB alum Navid Bin Ahmed was named a UPG Sustainability Leader on February 9, 2024, for his innovative AI technology, ShiatsuOne.

This award was part of the "Journey to Hurricane Campaign," held from January 12 to February 5, 2024. Navid's AI technology supports the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by enhancing disease detection capabilities, including COVID-19.

His project won international acclaim, showcasing how technological innovation can address global health challenges and promote sustainable development.

Navid's winning entry revolves around his innovative AI technology, ShiatsuOne, designed to support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),



specifically SDGs 3, 9, and 17.

This novel innovation aims to remotely detect diseases like COVID-19, Pneumonia, and Bronchitis, reflecting a significant advancement in medical technology and global health. •

CSE Research Day Celebrates Innovation



On March 7, 2024, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering hosted its Annual Research Day.

The event highlighted significant achievements such as 32 journal and 144 conference publications in 2023, and multiple wins in tech contests.

Joyita Faruk won the Three Minute Thesis competition with her research on AI-driven healthcare solutions. Vice Chancellor Tanweer Hasan praised the students and faculty for their contributions and called for increased research funding, reinforcing the department's commitment to advancing technological education and innovation. •

Multilateralism Discussed in GSG Global Talk

Ambassador M. Shameem Ahsan explored the theme of multilateralism and its implications for Bangladesh at the second episode of the Global Studies & Governance (GSG) Global Talk at IUB on March 23, 2024. His keynote covered the historical and current significance of major multilateral organizations and Bangladesh's foreign policy under the ethos of "friendship to all, malice to none." The session, enriched by active student participation, addressed complex international issues including the Palestinian and Rohingya crises, underscoring the country's role and challenges within global governance frameworks. •

Korean Envoy Advocates Stronger Bilateral Ties



During a special lecture at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) on March 4, 2024, the Korean Ambassador to Bangladesh, H.E. Park Young-sik, advocated strengthening bilateral ties between Bangladesh and South Korea.

Highlighting a 50-year legacy of cooperation in trade, investment, and cultural exchanges, he emphasized the potential for further development of these relations.

The event, attended by IUB's students and leadership, featured the Ambassador's insights on South Korea's socio-political and trade dynamics, and ended with an engaging Q&A session, underscoring the potential outcomes of deeper collaboration between the nations. •

Prof. Rasiah Analyzes Economic Trajectories



Prof. Dato' Rajah Rasiah delivered a lecture on March 4, 2024 at IUB, comparing the economic growth trajectories of Bangladesh and Malaysia.

Organized collaboratively by several IUB schools, the event drew faculty and students who discussed how both nations could achieve 'developed status' through strategic industrial upgrading. Renowned economist and former Governor of Bangladesh Bank Dr. Atiur Rahman contributed as a discussant, enhancing the discourse. The lecture compared the developmental strategies crucial for sustained economic growth in both countries, fostering a deeper understanding among attendees of the pathways to economic development. •

GSG Dialogue Focuses on Development Challenges

On March 28, 2024, the GSG Department of IUB launched the first episode of its GSG Development-Governance Dialogues series.

Titled 'Bangladesh: Development, Debates, and Directions', the event featured Dr. K.A.S. Murshid, a prominent development economist, who explored Bangladesh's developmental challenges since independence.

Addressing issues like privatization, the green revolution, and the significant roles of NGOs and the garment industry, Dr. Murshid provided deep insights into the factors shaping the nation's trajectory. The dialogue aimed to enhance understanding among scholars and students of the complexities involved in national development. •

Law Students Engage in Global Peace Project

On January 4, 2024, the Department of Law completed the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW) Handbook Discussion Project. Organized in collaboration with the South Korean NGO Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL), the project involved 20 students discussing the institutionalization of peace and human rights in international law. The event concluded with awards for outstanding participants, recognizing their contributions to the discourse on peace. This initiative underscored the role of academic institutions in promoting global peace and legal reforms. •

CSE Students Join BGMEA Career Summit



From December 22-24, 2023, 70 Computer Science and Engineering students from Independent University, Bangladesh attended the BGMEA Career Summit & Fest at the BGMEA Complex in Dhaka.

This event, focused on integrating academic learning with practical industry experience, allowed final semester students and interns to explore career opportunities within the Ready-Made Garment sector.

The summit provided a vital networking platform, aligning with BGMEA's objective to create six million jobs by 2030 and demonstrating the crucial link between educational institutions and industry needs in shaping future professionals. •

Workshop Focuses on Green Skills



The Department of Environmental Science and Management held a workshop on "Green Skills for a Sustainable Future" on February 24, 2024.

This event, part of the ERASMUS+ ACCESS4ALL project, attracted students and early career professionals to discuss essential skills for environmental sustainability. Experts from IUB and partnering institutions facilitated sessions that highlighted the importance of green skills in today's job market. The workshop aimed to equip participants with knowledge and tools necessary for advancing locally led sustainable solutions, reflecting a commitment to environmental education and responsible career planning. •

Photo Exhibit Captures Freedom Fighters' Life and Sacrifices



Freedom Fighters visit the installations set up on IUB campus by the Independent Photography Club as part of the program titled "Swadhinatar Jolchobi" on March 27, 2024

To mark the Independence and National Day 2024, the Independent Photography Club (IPC) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), unveiled a significant four-day photography exhibit titled "Swadhinatar Jolchobi" on their campus on March 27, 2024. The event is a collaborative effort with the IUB Journalism Club and the Division of Student Activities (DoSA) and focuses on the life stories of the Freedom Fighters, aiming to share their narratives of struggle and sacrifice with the younger generations, fostering a deeper understanding of the Liberation War.

The exhibition was inaugurated by a host of dignitaries including Freedom Fighter and IUB Board of Trustees (BoT) Chairman, Mr. Didar A Husain; Architect Nilufer Zafarullah, Chairman, ESTCDT; Dr. Husne Ara Ali, Member, BoT; and Tanweer Hasan, PhD, Vice Chancellor, IUB.

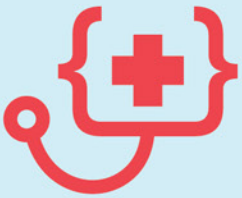
Notably, the event also featured personal engagements with Freedom Fighters AMG Kabir Vulu, Habibul Alam, Mokhlesur Rahman, Abdul Kader Mondal, and Mohammad Joynal Abedin, who shared their firsthand experiences of the Liberation War with students.

IPC President Rami Ahmed highlighted the exhibition's significance, stating, "Swadhinatar Jolchobi is more than a photography exhibit. It is a tribute to the indomitable spirit of Bangladesh's Freedom Fighters and our nation's journey towards independence. Through portraits and interviews, our members have meticulously documented these heroes' lives and sacrifices. We extend our gratitude to the IUB Journalism Club for their role in transforming these interviews into compelling narratives."

Swadhinatar Jolchobi is was hosted on the ground floor of the IUB Academic Building from March 27 to March 31, 2024. This exhibition not only serves as a visual homage to the Freedom Fighters but also as an educational venture, aiming to imbue attendees with a profound sense of national history and pride. •



Freedom Fighters, IUB Trustees, senior management, faculty and staff pose for a photograph with the members of the Independent Photograph Club (IPC) and the IUB Journalism Club on March 27, 2024



Medical Emergency Assistance on IUB Campus

IUB Medical Center	1999
Medical Assistant	01327 187984
Who to call on campus	01749 308403 01715 009323 01717 639601
Kurmitola General Hospital	02-55062388
Emergency Vehicle (Standby)	01746 639081

IUB

Independent University, Bangladesh

The Four Pillars of IUB



Strong Liberal Arts Foundation

We help our students develop a taste for and the ability to appreciate the finer things in life such as art, literature, and music. They develop qualities such as humanitarianism and volunteerism so they can respond to the call of the hour.

Technologically Competent

In this era of fast-paced transformation and connectivity, it is essential to have the ability to leverage the power of digital technologies. As part of IUB's 'Coding for All' program, every student is required to have basic computer and coding skills irrespective of their concentrations.





Globally Conscious

Our students become globally conscious by learning to understand and interpret contemporary trends in global business, development and politics. As a result, when they graduate and explore opportunities, they can adapt to multicultural settings easily.

Environmentally Responsible

Every student must be aware of their roles in protecting the environment because climate change and pollution are the biggest challenges facing the world today and every human being has a part to play in protecting the planet.

