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IUB Update: issue 196

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INNOVATION TO IMPACT AWARD

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Published
September 2026

Published by
Media and Public Relations Department,
Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)
Plot 16, Block B, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka 1245

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Where we are, where we're headed



Prof. M. Tamim

Let me begin with something that makes me proud of all of us. Since 2019, no paper by a regular, currently serving IUB faculty member has been retracted from a renowned journal. Think about what that means at a time when research misconduct is making headlines across the world. This did not happen by accident. It happened because our faculty, our students, our researchers and our academic leadership take their work seriously, and that record belongs to every one of you.

The world is noticing too. IUB now ranks as the number one private university in Bangladesh in both the Research.com and Nature Index rankings – a reflection of the quality you produce, year after year. I want us to protect that standard as the ground shifts beneath us, which is why we are introducing a policy on the responsible use of AI in research. I ask you to read it and take it to heart; it is written for the work we do together.

Before I turn to the good news around us, a practical word. The salary revision process is underway, and the Annual Performance Appraisal platform feeds directly into it. Please log your updates there – do not leave it for later.

Now, a few things worth celebrating. Bloodbridge, an intelligent platform connecting blood seekers with donors, is now live on Google Play Store. It was built entirely by our own students, so use it, and pass it on whenever you, a family member, a friend or an acquaintance needs urgent blood. In the same spirit of putting ideas to work, our Innovation to Impact Award is now open, with applications open from 15 August to 21 September. Bring us your market-ready prototypes and let us help you take them to the next level.

Our reach extends outward as well. This past summer, two highly qualified foreign faculty members from Europe and North America taught courses in Marketing, Branding and Accounting, and I thank the Office of the Pro Vice Chancellor for making that possible.

Closer to home, congratulations to Prof. Shah Amran, who has joined the Bangladesh Accreditation Council as a member. And to the students and volunteers who carried out a significant flood relief drive in July – you showed the university at its best. You made us proud. My thanks to all of you. •



The one planet we have

By Nuzhat Fatima Purnota

I have watched the river in the northern Bangladeshi district of Kurigram take homes, land and, sometimes, people leaving heartache and loss. I have sat in coastal households in the south of Bangladesh where salt has crept into the water, the soil and damaged people's health. I have also known families who lose everything to rising waters but keep living with it, in a state of uncertainty and fear as they have nowhere else to go.



Data collection from for the Climate justice project in collaboration with Center for Participatory Research and Development in Nageshwari, Kurigram

As a student of Environmental Science and Management at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), I have traveled to remote parts of the country to speak, observe and document the people who confront disasters due to climate change. In Bangladesh, the reality of climate change is very clear. But my conversations have exposed me to realities I did not know existed, and have left me with a question harder than the science alone poses: Why is so little being done or more pertinently, why does so little of what is promised ever arrive?

My work is in climate change and development, and within it I have chosen to focus on two areas the wider discourse tends to leave vague, namely: loss and damage, and climate finance. Bangladesh has been promised and allocated significant funds to tackle climate change – more than BDT 20 billion or USD 150 million for the 2026-27 financial year. But it was in the field, doing this work, that I ran into a number I could not get past.

I found that not even 2% of the country's actual climate fund reaches the people most affected by climate change. I began to ask what could account for such a gap between the figures on paper and the reality on the ground.

It is not simply that Bangladesh lacks intent. We have some of the strongest climate policies among the 193 member states of the United Nations, and we have been one of Asia's early movers in setting our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) at successive Conferences of the Parties (Climate COP). And yet the gap in implementation remains. The shortfall in finance is real, but there are more fundamental governance factors at work.

One conversation sharpened this for me. In an interview with a young person who attended several COP sessions – both as an observer and as a Bangladeshi youth delegate – I was told that one of the problems Bangladeshi delegations face is our lack of negotiation skills. Worse, they said, there isn't any assembly line of successors ready to take over when the current negotiators retire.

That thought stayed with me. It carried me back to a question we asked during the July Movement, which tried to address political inertia and public disengagement: who is the alternative? Who are going to be the actors of much needed change in the politics of the country?

The honest answer is that, as a country, we are not prepared. For example, negotiation is not a skill you acquire on the job when you are fresh off the boat. My own research, whether from a climate change or disaster management perspective, often employs policy analysis, yet I knew very little about policy advocacy, let alone how to suggest improvement in policies. So, the question that has followed me as a young professional stepping into this field is a practical one: how do I translate academic

knowledge into meaningful action?

I found part of the answer in a short course at IUB called "Green Skills for a Sustainable Future," offered under the ACCESS4ALL (Adapting Climate Change Education Skills and Sustainability for Advancing Locally-Led Solutions) project, funded under the Erasmus+ Capacity Building for Higher Education (CBHE) grants.

It turned out to be more than a certificate; it was a bridge between theory and practice. Through modules on policy, sustainability, adaptation, mitigation and the green economy, I learned not only the science of climate change but the skills needed to act on it. Group projects built around real local problems like drafting policy and planning for sustainability, taught me to weigh evidence, design solutions and think creatively about complex challenges.

Climate change, I came to see, is not only an environmental crisis but a social, economic and political one, and as much a matter of management as of science. I also came to see something I had been missing: how to steer a negotiation toward my country's interest while demanding climate justice, and how to press for accountable and transparent discussion at the table. Addressing challenges this interconnected requires inclusive approaches, ones that hold gender, equity and



Focus group discussion in Satkhira under the ICCCAD CAP-RES Research Grant Project

sustainability together, and leaders who can connect research to real-world action.

That is the role I see for myself – a bridge between academic research and practical solutions, and a catalyst for turning one into the other.

Looking ahead, I believe the future will be defined by how well we equip ourselves with green skills. They are no longer optional. Climate change will shape every sector, from agriculture to finance. As artificial intelligence takes over many of the skills people once relied on to earn a living, green skills are one way to set ourselves apart. For Bangladesh, investing in them means preparing a workforce able to design resilient cities, sustainable economies and inclusive policies.

My country has committed to building green skills into its curriculum in its most recent Nationally Determined Contributions.



Data collection from char community members in Chilmari, Kurigram for the Climate Justice Project

A signal, to me, that the demand for these skills is about to grow, and that courses like those offered by ACCESS4ALL are a pathway to a sustainable future. The potential is there; what it needs is the right direction, guidance and support.

There are already openings for young people in the climate discourse. The United Nations Development Program and the government of Bangladesh launched the Youth Voice Mechanism, a platform for young people to propose practical climate action. More channels like this would not only build our capacity but prepare us for the challenges ahead – a way in, almost a prerequisite, to negotiations at a broader level. Education of this kind makes that entry easier, and for a recent graduate it is a place to begin stepping into advocacy and negotiation.

We always ask for more opportunities for the youth, because we are the ones who will decide the fate of our future. It is only fair, then, to give us the pathway we need to prepare for the fight for the one planet we have. •

Nuzhat Fatima Purnota is a graduate of the Department of Environmental Science and Management at IUB.

IUB tops national research rankings in two international indices

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) has been recognized as the country's leading private university in two international research rankings released in recent months, placing first in Bangladesh in both Microbiology and Physical Sciences.

In the Research.com Best Universities in Bangladesh 2025/2026 Ranking, IUB placed third among all Bangladeshi universities, behind Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), with a world ranking of 2137. The university was listed with two scholars, 332 publications, and a combined H-index of 118.

Research.com's institutional profile also ranks IUB first in Bangladesh and 527th globally in Microbiology. The discipline profile lists Prof. Dr. Shah M Faruque of IUB's Department of Life Sciences, with 153 publications and a total D-index of 66.

The recognition follows IUB's earlier placement in the Nature Index institutional rankings, where it emerged as Bangladesh's top private university, ranking 5th overall among Bangladeshi institutions, 3rd among universities, and first in the country in the Physical Sciences category. IUB recorded a Nature Index Share of 0.63 from four indexed research articles.



Two of those articles were authored by Dr. Jewel Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Sciences and Director of the Computational Physics Wing of IUB's Center for Computational and Data Sciences (CCDS), published in the European Physical Journal C and the Journal of High Energy Physics. A third, on the JWST Near Infrared Spectrograph, was authored by Dr. Anowar J. Shajib, Associate Member of IUB's Center for Astronomy, Space Science and Astrophysics (CASSA), published in Astronomy & Astrophysics.

IUB Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Tamim said, "These results show that IUB's research strength is becoming visible across more than one scientific field. Our focus will remain on supporting serious research, building stronger academic groups and encouraging work that meets international standards."

Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund said, "Rankings based on research data are important because they reflect measurable scholarly output and impact. IUB's performance in Microbiology and Physical Sciences points to the quality of work being done by our faculty and researchers."

Both rankings rely on bibliometric data. Research.com determines placement by the sum of affiliated scholars' D-indexes, or Discipline H-indexes, drawing on databases including OpenAlex and CrossRef. The Nature Index, developed by Nature Research Intelligence, part of Springer Nature, tracks research published in a selected group of leading international journals and ranks institutions primarily on Share, a fractional score that adjusts for multi-author collaboration.

Together, the two rankings place IUB first in Bangladesh in two major scientific disciplines, assessed independently by two international research platforms. •

Saima Hall alum Monisha overcomes financial barriers to earn US fellowship

From the tea-growing district of Moulvibazar to a fully funded graduate program in USA, Mondira Devi Das Monisha's academic journey was shaped as much by resilience as by opportunity. For the graduate of the Department of English and Modern Languages at IUB, the path to higher education once appeared uncertain after financial hardship following a death in the family raised doubts about whether continuing her studies would even be possible.

Recently, Monisha secured admission to the MA in English program at Oregon State University with full funding through the university's Provost Distinguished Fellowship. She completed her SSC from The Flowers KG and High School in Moulvibazar and her HSC from Moulvibazar Government College. She enrolled at IUB and became a resident of Saima Hall, where she received accommodation and a full-free studentship.

Saima Hall is a residential facility of IUB established a decade ago to provide free accommodation, meals, and quality higher education to underprivileged female students from remote regions of the country.

Among private universities in Bangladesh, Saima Hall remains the first residential hostel offering such fully funded support exclusively for disadvantaged women students.

The hall is funded by the Shaheed Khalek and Major Salek Bir Uttam Trust, established by the family of IUB Trustee A Matin Chowdhury. Trustee Salma Karim oversees all hall operations, supported by a committee comprising IUB officials working under her guidance.

Mrs. Salma Karim, Member of the Board of Trustees of IUB and Advisor of Saima Hall, said the residential initiative was intended to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds continue their education with dignity and stability. "Saima Hall witnessed countless stories of courage. Students arrive here with hopes and go on to become changemakers in society. Each alumna of Saima Hall is a testament to what can happen when talent is met with opportunity," she said.

Monisha said, "At IUB, I developed an academic interest in the relationship between language education and environmental awareness. I completed



my undergraduate degree in English Language Teaching [ELT] with a minor in Environmental Science and later explored how language education could engage with broader ecological and social questions."

One of the defining milestones of her undergraduate years was her thesis, titled "Ecoliteracy in Language Education: An Approach to Raising Ecological Consciousness Among EFL Learners," supervised by Assistant Professor Dr. Md Shaiful Islam.

Monisha initially received a Graduate Teaching Assistantship from Oregon State University. The offer was later upgraded to the Provost Distinguished Fellowship following nomination by her advisor based on her academic performance and research potential.

The Oregon fellowship includes tuition waiver, health insurance, and a monthly stipend during the first year, followed by a Graduate Teaching Assistantship with undergraduate teaching responsibilities from the second year onward.

Looking ahead, Monisha hopes to continue research on language education and environmental awareness while eventually contributing to education and research in Bangladesh. She also said she hopes to support students from financially challenged backgrounds who face barriers like those she once encountered herself. •

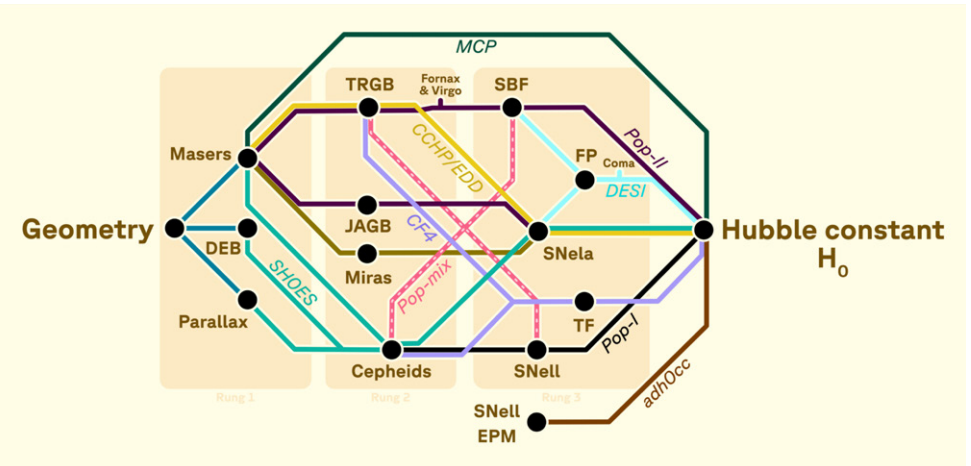
Solving Hubble tension may require new physics, suggests breakthrough study involving IUB's Dr. Syed Ashraf Uddin



An international team of astronomers has produced the most precise direct measurement yet of how fast the universe is expanding today, strengthening evidence behind one of modern cosmology's biggest puzzles.

The study, led by the H_0 Distance Network (H0DN) Collaboration, reports a highly precise value for the current expansion rate by combining multiple independent measurement techniques into a single framework. The team reports the universe's current expansion rate at 73.50 kilometers per second per megaparsec, with an uncertainty of ±0.81.

Dr. Syed Ashraf Uddin, Associate Professor of Physical Sciences and a member of the core group of the Center for Astronomy, Space Science and Astrophysics (CASSA) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has contributed to the study as part of the global H_0DN collaboration. The study, titled "The Local Distance Network: A community consensus report on the measurement of the Hubble constant at ~1% precision", has been published in Astronomy & Astrophysics. Dr. Uddin has been involved in advanced research on measuring the rate of expansion of the universe for several years.



Astronomy & Astrophysics is a leading international peer-reviewed journal, publishing original research across areas such as cosmology, stellar physics and planetary science. Published by EDP Sciences and supported by a consortium of European research institutions, it is widely regarded as one of the top journals in the field, known for its rigorous review standards and global scientific reach.

The finding of this study is significant in the context of the long-standing Hubble tension – a growing mismatch between measurements of the universe's current expansion rate and estimates based on

observations of the early universe, particularly the Cosmic Microwave Background.

Dr. Uddin said, “For years, scientists have debated whether this gap is due to hidden errors in measurement techniques or points to gaps in existing theories. By showing that multiple independent methods converge on the same higher value, the new study makes it harder to attribute the discrepancy to a single flawed approach and strengthens the case that the tension may reflect deeper, unresolved physics.”

Rather than relying on a single “cosmic distance ladder,” the team adopted a broader approach by building a “distance network.” This method connects different ways of measuring cosmic distances – such as variable stars, supernova explosions and galaxy properties – into a unified system. By accounting for overlaps and shared uncertainties between these methods, the researchers were able to cross-check results and produce a more robust and transparent estimate.

The collaboration brought together nearly 40 researchers from diverse methodological backgrounds, including scientists who have previously worked in separate teams using different techniques to measure the expansion



rate. This cross-method participation ensured that no single approach dominated the outcome and that the final result reflected a broad, community-driven consensus within the local measurement field.

Measuring the universe’s expansion has historically relied on several independent techniques. Some use pulsating stars to gauge distances to nearby galaxies, others rely on exploding stars as standard markers across vast cosmic scales, while additional methods use properties of galaxies themselves.

“Differences in calibration, data quality and underlying assumptions have led to slightly different results over time. The new study addresses these variations by combining all major methods in a consistent framework and showing that, when treated together, they produce a stable and mutually consistent result,” said Dr. Uddin.

“This work is important because it shows that the higher expansion rate we observe locally is not dependent on any single method,” said Dr. Uddin. “When multiple independent approaches point to the same result, it strengthens our confidence that the discrepancy we see is real and not simply a measurement issue.”

He added that the study provides a clearer foundation for future research. “By building a transparent and flexible framework, we are enabling the scientific community to test new data and refine the measurement further, which is essential for understanding whether new physics may be required.”

Dr. Khan Muhammad Bin Asad, Assistant Professor of Physical Sciences and Director of CASSA at IUB, said the university’s involvement reflects its growing engagement with global scientific research. “Through CASSA, we have been working for several years to connect researchers in Bangladesh with the international astronomy and astrophysics community, while also creating opportunities for students and young researchers to participate in cutting-edge work,” he said.

About CASSA

The Center for Astronomy, Space Science and Astrophysics (CASSA) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) is dedicated to advancing research, education and public engagement in astronomy and astrophysics.
The centre has recently installed a Transient Array Radio Telescope (TART), the first such telescope in the entire northern hemisphere, with mainly in-house engineering fabrication capacity to support observational research and student training.
The center also works to build international collaborations, including partnerships with astronomers and astrophysicists of Bangladeshi origin working in universities and research institutions around the world, contributing to the development of the field in Bangladesh. •

IUB launches 'Innovation-to-Impact Award' to help student, faculty and alumni projects reach the world



In June 2026, the i2i Award team, including João Fialho, met with industry representatives

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) has launched the **"Innovation-to-Impact (i2i) Award"**, a new initiative aimed at helping promising student and faculty projects move beyond the classroom and into practical use. Applications for the inaugural cycle opened in August 2026 and will continue until the end of September 2026.

The program addresses a common challenge in higher education: many innovative final-year projects, research outputs, and competition-winning prototypes never progress beyond academic presentation despite their potential to solve real-world problems.

"Unlike traditional innovation programs that focus on generating ideas, the Innovation-to-Impact Award begins after the core work has already been completed. The initiative is designed for projects that have reached a stage where they can be validated, refined, and connected with industry, investors, or communities that could benefit from them," said João Fialho, Strategic Advisor for Innovation at IUB.

Under the eight-month program, selected teams will receive mentorship from industry professionals, practical guidance, and opportunities to strengthen their projects while working toward measurable outcomes. Participants will also earn industry-verified badges that recognize demonstrated skills rather than classroom attendance.

The badges cover five key areas: Project Management, Market Research, Marketing & Communication, Validation, and Platinum Recognition for the highest-performing projects. Each badge is awarded only after participants complete specific milestones and provide evidence that their work has met the required standards.

The verified badges will remain valuable even if a startup or project does not ultimately succeed, providing graduates with credible proof of practical skills that employers increasingly seek.

The first cycle of the Innovation-to-Impact Award will begin with applications in August-September 2026, followed by screening and team onboarding in late September and October. The incubation phase is scheduled to start in mid-to-late October and continue through June 2027. At the conclusion of the program, the strongest teams will present their projects before a panel of industry judges.

The university is inviting applications from students and faculty whose work has already progressed beyond the idea stage. Eligible submissions include final-year projects, capstone projects, tested prototypes, competition-winning innovations, and research that is ready for practical application.

"Beyond supporting entrepreneurship, the initiative also recognizes projects that create social impact. Organizers say solutions that improve public services, strengthen communities, or address institutional challenges will be valued alongside commercially viable ventures," said Dr. Saadia Binte Alam, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and project coordinator of i2i Award at IUB.

"By connecting research, academic programs, industry partners, and innovation support under one framework, IUB hopes the Innovation-to-Impact Award will ensure that promising ideas continue their journey after graduation and deliver lasting impact beyond the university campus," said Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB. •

'It's not just about theory anymore'

In this interview, ***Dr. Faheem Bukhari,*** *Professor of Marketing at Hult International Business School, London, and a visiting scholar at IUB, argues that employers want problem-solvers who adapt quickly, communicate well and bring practical skills to the table.*

Q: How should universities prepare for the changing landscape of branding?

I believe that innovation is the key to the success of any university, especially for its students. They need to understand the skills required to be better in the marketplace. Universities need to not work only on contextual information. They need to work on the soft skills of the students. They need to upscale their technical knowledge and skills, which are quite required in the corporate sector. So it's not just about contextual information or theory-based information – they need to equip their students for the changing landscape in the corporate sector.

Q: What do international faculty members bring to a classroom?

There are two things we need to understand. One is contextual learning, and the second is perspective. Even global faculty members have contextual information about their theory. For example, I teach marketing and I know the basics of marketing and brand management, but when I'm in the class, I go beyond marketing or beyond theory. The exposure that global faculty members bring –



engagement, diversified assessment strategies, classroom philosophies, and knowledge of how global brands work internationally – creates optimal learning for the student.

Q: How do you create an engaging and productive learning environment for students from diverse backgrounds?

How to manage a class – that's a very important question. Secondly, to engage the student, faculty members have to go beyond theoretical learning. I'm talking about experiential learning – which means engage the students. You have to ask questions in class. You have to make them speak. You have to make them think out of the box. So it's more about engaging with the students and making sure they ask questions in class. When you have this kind of environment in the class, you can use debates, short mini-cases, any situation where they have to think out of the box.

Q: What has the IUB experience been like for you?

I came to IUB last year as well. Last time I was engaged in faculty training for case study writing. This time I'm in the classroom. So far it's been quite rewarding, quite respectful. The faculty members, the management, the leadership, and especially the students, have been very cooperative. Students are passionate, they are motivated, and I can see the hunger to learn. If a student has these three things, I think they have a long way to go, and at IUB I see a lot of potential in these students.

Q: What skills do business students need to compete globally?

They need to be innovative. They need to have technical skills. It's not just about understanding the basics of any course – in a degree program, you have so many courses. They do have theoretical understanding, but to be a global leader, they need to work on the soft side too: time management, discipline. They need to make sure that whatever task is given to them is completed on time. So soft skills need to be embedded in the student. •

Scan this QR code to see the full video interview on YouTube

The lessons that don't show up on a transcript

Masuda Alam Moutushi's two-semester Erasmus+ journey at the University of Maribor



On December 12, 2025, Moutushi visited the Paris-Beauvais Airport in France, met with the pilots and took pictures in the cockpit

When Masuda Alam Moutushi, a final-year Computer Science and Engineering student at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), arrived in Maribor, Slovenia, on September 29, 2025, she expected one semester abroad. She stayed for two, completing her Erasmus+ Credit Mobility program at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (FERI) on July 10, 2026.

That decision to extend turned a study trip into something larger – an education in living and belonging in a place far from home.



On February 7, 2026, Moutushi attended the 66th Kurentovanje Festival in Ptuj, Slovenia, as part of the Erasmus cohort Winter '25

Beyond the classroom

Academically, the second semester pushed her further than the first. Alongside earlier courses in Computer and Digital Systems Engineering & Foreign Language, she took ERP Systems, Algorithms with Big Data, Web Development, and Object-Oriented Programming with Java, working with tools including SAP, React, Figma, and MATLAB.

"The coursework was demanding, but it showed me how technology is taught and applied in a different system," she said. "You learn to adapt your thinking, not just your syntax."

But Moutushi, by her own account an outgoing person, was never going to treat the exchange as coursework alone.

Giving back to Maribor

The most distinctive part of her second semester happened outside the university.

From February to July 2026, she volunteered at the Maribor Animal Shelter, earning a volunteer certificate. She also joined Maribor Philanthropy, where she taught English to two students.

"Volunteering changed the experience for me," she said. "I wasn't just a visitor passing through. I was part of the community,



On June 8, 2026, Moutushi visited Piran and Portorož in the costal region of Slovenia along with her second Erasmus cohort

contributing something."

That instinct to engage rather than observe defined much of her time abroad. She took part in faculty sports, hiking trips, cultural evenings, and community activities – the kind of participation that turns a host city into a familiar one.

Representing Bangladesh

Being visible mattered to her too. At an ESN International Dinner attended by students from more than 20 countries, she presented traditional Bangladeshi cuisine and later earned the Craziest Picture Award at the ESN Gala Night. She was invited by Radio SI, Slovenia's international radio station, to speak about her experience as an Erasmus student, and she gave a country presentation at a Slovenian primary school.

"Every time someone asked about Bangladesh, it felt like a small responsibility," she said. "I wanted them to remember us well."

Seeing Europe

Travel gave the exchange its wider horizon. Over the two semesters, Moutushi visited eleven countries – Croatia, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Austria, France, Spain, Slovakia, Italy, Germany, Poland, and Vatican City – and explored Slovenia from Ljubljana and Piran to Lake Bled and Ptuj.

One first-semester day stood out. In Prague, on November 7, 2025, she crossed St. Charles Bridge at dawn, ate breakfast in Letná Park overlooking the Vltava, and photographed the rotating head of Franz Kafka. She sampled trdelník, the traditional chimney cake, and stayed overnight to watch the city after dark.

"Prague was the first time I felt completely on my own in a foreign city," she recalled. "Navigating it, figuring things out – that was when I realized how much I'd grown."



On April 15th, 2026, Moutushi attended the LEGO challenge, organized by ESN and ŠOUM, along with her friends from the second cohort

What the exchange leaves behind

An exchange semester is often measured in credits transferred.

Moutushi's experience suggests the real gains are harder to tabulate: the confidence to arrive somewhere unfamiliar and make it work, the discipline of new academic systems, and the perspective that comes from representing your country while learning from others.

"Two semesters abroad taught me more than any single course could," she said. "I came back knowing I can adapt anywhere." Having returned to Bangladesh, Moutushi resumes her studies at IUB with something no transcript records – the outlook of a student who went abroad expecting to learn, and came home having lived. •

Aashnai completes 5-month exchange semester at Kobe College, Japan

Aashnai Marzan Syeda, an undergraduate student of Media and Communication at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), completed a five-month exchange semester at Kobe College in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, from September 2025 to February 2025. The program provided international academic exposure through interdisciplinary coursework, Japanese language studies, cultural learning, and campus life.



During the semester, Aashnai studied Psycholinguistics, Japanese Language, Media Literacy, Theatre Studies, Japanese Literature, Gender in Modern Japanese Culture, and Japanese cultural practices, including tea ceremony, origami, koto, Japanese cuisine, and popular culture. She also pursued tutorial-based studies on French culture and feminist literature under the supervision of Professor Sato.

The academic program combined classroom learning with independent research and cultural engagement. Through coursework and class discussions, she explored language, gender, media, literature, and cultural practices while presenting aspects of Bangladeshi culture, including Baul traditions, Bangla linguistics, and Jatra theatre, to fellow students. The exchange also provided opportunities to compare social and cultural perspectives between Bangladesh and Japan through research and classroom presentations.

Beyond academics, Aashnai experienced residential campus life within a women's college, where communal responsibilities and institutional activities formed part of her daily life. She also participated in chapel gatherings and intercultural activities that brought together students from different backgrounds.

Outside the classroom, Aashnai traveled to Kyoto, Nara, Kochi, Osaka, and surrounding areas of Kobe, gaining exposure to Japan's history, public spaces, and everyday life. Alongside her studies, she worked with the English Department at Kobe College, performed music at local venues, developed manga-inspired illustrations, and worked on a digital storytelling project exploring identity, distance, and communication.

Reflecting on the exchange, Aashnai said the experience broadened both her academic and personal perspectives: "The exchange showed me that learning extends beyond the classroom. It gave me the opportunity to experience a different academic environment, engage with another culture, and share perspectives from Bangladesh while developing both academically and personally."

The exchange strengthened Aashnai's academic experience, intercultural communication skills, and understanding of international education while providing opportunities to represent Bangladesh and IUB in an international academic community. •

Preenon completes exchange semester at INTI International University, Malaysia

Sirajum Muneera Preenon, a Life Sciences student at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), completed an exchange semester at INTI International University, Malaysia, in December 2025. Beginning in August 2025, she studied Immunology and Recombinant DNA Technology while adjusting to a different academic system and a multicultural learning environment.

Preenon took part in the exchange through a process coordinated by the Office of Admissions, Financial Aid and International Relations, with input from the Dean of the Department of Life Sciences and academic counterparts at INTI International University.

During the semester, she adapted to teaching and assessment methods that differed from those at IUB. Where IUB follows a structured system of quizzes, midterm examinations, and final examinations, INTI placed greater emphasis on continuous learning, practical laboratory work, and collaborative presentations. She said supportive faculty and the learning environment helped her adjust.

Living on campus gave her the chance to engage with students outside the classroom and settle into a different daily routine. Over the semester, Preenon made friends with students from Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, and China, gaining exposure to different cultures and perspectives while strengthening her communication and interpersonal skills.

Beyond academics, she took part in seminars, multicultural activities, a student forum with university management, and the official exchange convocation ceremony. At one cultural program, international students performed traditional dances and wore national attire representing their countries. She also visited Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Port Dickson, Klebang Beach, and the Genting Highlands, where she experienced Malaysian culture, local cuisine, and daily life.





Reflecting on the experience, Preenon said, "The exchange taught me that studying abroad is not only about academics. It is also about adapting to new environments, learning from people with different backgrounds, and building friendships that stay with you long after the semester ends."

The exchange gave Preenon international academic exposure while strengthening her adaptability, intercultural communication, and collaboration skills. It also allowed her to represent IUB and Bangladesh abroad, contributing to the university's ongoing efforts to expand its global academic engagement. •

Prof. Akhlaque Haque speaks at IUB on curiosity, learning and AI



IUB hosted an academic motivational session titled "The Power of Curious Minds in the Age of AI" on May 18, 2026, at the DMK Lecture Gallery, featuring Prof. Dr. Akhlaque Haque from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA. The session was organized by the Outreach, Extension and Continuing Education (OECE) unit under the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor. Dr. Haque is a Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the President of the South Asian Network for Public Administration (SANPA). His keynote speech focused on curiosity, critical thinking, creativity, and ethical judgment in the context of artificial intelligence.
He discussed the importance of independent thinking, questioning, and problem-solving in an environment that is increasingly influenced by artificial intelligence. He encouraged students to move beyond rote learning and engage with practical and social challenges through research, innovation, and analytical thinking. Using examples from healthcare, technology, governance, and public policy, Dr. Haque described artificial intelligence as a tool that can support human capability and decision-making. •

Prof. Mamun Habib speaks at Int'l Scientific Day event in Morocco

Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib, participated as the Guest of Honour and delivered a session at the 1st International Scientific Day on April 22, 2026. The event was organized by the Center for Studies and Research in Engineering and Management of Organization (CERIMO) in collaboration with the International Journal of Supply Chain Management in Casablanca, Morocco. The session under Axis 3, titled "Key Requirements for Successful Scientific Publications: Bias, Plagiarism, and Researcher Responsibility," was moderated by Dr. Aicha Farissi. It covered bias in research, plagiarism, and researcher responsibility, along with the role of journal publications in academic careers and the importance of Scopus indexing for credibility and recognition. Prof. Habib discussed research ethics and outlined requirements for academic writing, including clarity, structure, and originality. He also explained criteria for evaluating journals, including indexing, impact, and peer-review standards. The session included contributions from Dr. Aniss Moumen of Ibn Tofail University, Kenitra, and Dr. Ettaoufik Abdelaziz of Université Hassan II de Casablanca. •

Prof. Mamun Habib visits IFM Business School in Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of General Management at IUB, participated in an accreditation site visit conducted by ACBSP at IFM Business School in Geneva, Switzerland from March 8 to March 11, 2026.

The visit was part of the council's peer-review process to evaluate academic programs, faculty qualifications, governance structures, and institutional resources against ACBSP accreditation standards.

Prof. Habib served as a member of the visiting team, chaired by Dr. Yan Luo-Beitler, Associate Vice-Chancellor of International Affairs at Keiser University, USA. The team also included Dr. Stacey Little, Associate Dean at the American Public University System, USA. The review examined compliance with ACBSP standards for business education and institutional operations.

The team held meetings with all stakeholders, including academic and administrative leadership of IFM Business School. They spoke with Dr. Khalifa Sbih, General Director and Founder; Mr. Samir Sbih, Director of External Relations and Marketing; and Dr. Panayotis Zamaros, Academic Counsellor, and reviewed academic management, program structure, and institutional practices. •

Romita Zaman represents IUB at Erasmus+ Staff Training Week at the University of Maribor



Ms. Romita Zaman, Deputy Director of Admissions, Financial Aid and International Relations, represented IUB at the Erasmus+ Staff Training Week hosted by the University of Maribor, Slovenia from May 18-22, 2026. She joined 37 participants from universities and institutions worldwide, including Canada, Kenya, Egypt, Ukraine, Albania, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The training focused on student mobility, selection, learning agreements, recognition, administration, and institutional best practices. Participants shared experiences and explored ways to enhance international academic cooperation.

Ms. Zaman presented IUB's best practices in managing Erasmus+ student mobility, covering student selection, academic coordination, and mobility recognition. The programme offered valuable networking opportunities. •

IUB launches BBA in Supply Chain Management program

The School of Business and Entrepreneurship has launched the BBA in Supply Chain Management program, offered through the Department of General Management.

The introduction of the major reflects IUB's response to recent global supply chain disruptions, which have posed significant challenges across industries and highlighted the need for professionals with specialized training in this area.

The program is designed to give students structured exposure to global supply chain strategies, sourcing and procurement, logistics, inventory management, risk analysis, technology, sustainability and supplier relations, helping them identify weak links and improve organizational performance.

Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of General Management and a leading global expert in supply chain management, said the new major reflects growing global demand for supply chain expertise. "Recent disruptions in fuel, food, resources and financial systems caused by regional conflicts and the Covid-19 pandemic have highlighted the central role of supply chains and logistics across industries. This program is designed to prepare graduates to respond to such challenges with practical and analytical skills."

The four-year major requires a minimum of 130 credits for graduation. Students will complete courses across foundation, core, major, minor and internship components, with key subjects including Demand Planning and Inventory Management, Managing Global Supply Chains, Sourcing and Procurement, Total Quality Management, and Strategic Supply Chain Management. A range of elective courses, including Enterprise Resource Planning, Project Management and Lean Six-Sigma, will also be available.

Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmood, Dean (Acting) of SBE, said the introduction of the major marks a strategic step in expanding the school's academic portfolio. "Supply chain management is now a core function in modern business. By introducing this major at the undergraduate level, SBE is aligning its programs with emerging industry needs while strengthening its focus on applied, industry-relevant



education."

Admission to the program follows standard undergraduate criteria, including a combined GPA of 7.0 in SSC and HSC examinations, with additional provisions for O-Level, A-Level, International Baccalaureate (IB) and equivalent qualifications. Applicants with strong SAT, TOEFL or IELTS scores may be considered for exemption from the admission test.

Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor of IUB, said the BBA in Supply Chain Management reflects positive and practical progress in business education in Bangladesh.

He stressed how, "leading business schools around the world are placing greater emphasis on integrated, highly-practical, cross-functional knowledge that is rooted in cutting-edge research and global best practices. Supply Chain Management sits at the intersection of operations, logistics, data-driven decision-making, and strategy. The new program will help ensure that our graduates have the knowledge needed for navigating increasingly interconnected local, regional, and global markets."

IUB received the go-ahead from the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh on April 8, 2026, to offer the major. Students will be able to apply for this program from Autumn 2026 semester, the admission process for which starts in the first week of July 2026.

Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, said, "In a world increasingly shaped by systemic shocks – whether in energy, food or logistics – classroom knowledge alone is not enough. Students need to understand how real systems behave under stress. •

IUB graduate and CCDS researcher Farzana Islam brings Global South realities into AI-driven healthcare research

As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly embedded in healthcare, questions around transparency, ethics, and real-world applicability are gaining urgency – particularly in developing countries, where most existing frameworks fail to reflect local realities. From differences in diet and health indicators to disparities in access and infrastructure, the Global South presents challenges that are often overlooked in mainstream digital health research.

Against this backdrop, a young Bangladeshi researcher is contributing to a critical gap in the field. Farzana Islam, an MSc graduate in Computer Science from Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) and affiliated with IUB's Center for Computational & Data Sciences (CCDS), has published a study in the prestigious Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR) that proposes a participatory framework for explainable artificial intelligence (XAI) in mobile health (mHealth). Her work seeks to ensure that AI-driven health solutions are not only technologically advanced but also ethical, understandable, inclusive, and relevant to the communities they are designed to serve.

The article, titled "A Proposed Participatory Framework for Explainable AI in mHealth: Integrating User and Stakeholder Requirements", is a direct outcome of Farzana's MSc in Computer Science thesis work at IUB. The research was supervised by Dr. Ashraful Islam, current Director of CCDS, and co-supervised by Prof. Dr. M. Ashraful Amin, Founder Director of CCDS and Prof. Dr. Moinul Zaber from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

"This research looks at how artificial intelligence used in mHealth apps can be made easier to understand and more trustworthy for users. It proposes a framework where patients, doctors, and other stakeholders are involved in designing these systems so that the technology explains its decisions clearly. The goal is to create AI-powered health solutions that better fit the needs of people, especially in low-resource countries and the Global South," said Farzana, who received the Top Achiever's Award at the 26th Convocation of IUB held in January 2026.

"Consider a pregnant woman in Bangladesh using a mHealth app to make decisions about her care. If the system gives her advice without clearly explaining why, or if it is based on data that doesn't reflect her reality, it can create confusion or even risk. This research is about building a framework so that such technologies are understandable, trustworthy, and truly useful for people in contexts like ours," Farzana explained.

The Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR) is a leading peer-reviewed, open-access journal in digital health and medical informatics. Established in 1999, it focuses on the use of internet and emerging technologies in healthcare and is widely recognized as a top-ranked journal in its field. JMIR holds Q1 status in both SCOPUS and Web of Science, with a CiteScore of 11.7 and an Impact Factor of 6.0. Beyond its strong reputation for quality and visibility, it holds the distinction of being the field's largest journal and sits at #1 in Google Scholar rankings within the "Medical Informatics" discipline.



"What makes this publication especially significant is its pioneering nature. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first ever policy article addressing Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) for mHealth solution development specifically targeting countries in the Global South – a region long underrepresented in such high-impact research discourse," said Dr. Ashraful Islam, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at IUB and the current Director of CCDS.

JMIR Publications has also granted the team a rare courtesy waiver on the Article Processing Charges (APC), waiving 71% of the total fee – equivalent to USD 2,350 out of the standard USD 3,350, which reflects the publisher's acknowledgment of the exceptional merit and significance of the research.

Currently, Farzana is working as a Senior Lab Instructor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at North South University. She has also been accepted into a fully funded PhD program at the University of Connecticut, USA, which is ranked 80th globally in QS Subject Rankings.

"This combination of a high-impact international publication, a prestigious APC waiver, a current academic research position, and an upcoming fully-funded doctoral program collectively stands for the growing capacity of IUB to produce world-class research graduates who are well prepared for top-tier PhD programs, academia, and the global industry," said Dr. Islam.

IUB's Center for Computational and Data Sciences (CCDS) is a research-focused initiative that promotes interdisciplinary work in data science, artificial intelligence, and computational technologies. It supports faculty and student research, facilitates collaboration, and aims to develop innovative, data-driven solutions to real-world challenges. •

Workshop on modern mushroom cultivation techniques engages 20 entrepreneurs



The Department of Life Sciences organized a workshop on Modern Mushroom Cultivation Techniques on Monday, April 27, 2026. A total of 20 mushroom cultivators and entrepreneurs from different parts of the country participated in the session and shared their challenges and experiences.

To address this, Dr. Jebunnahar Khandakar, Associate Professor of Life Sciences at IUB, developed an innovative method after nearly three years of research that prevents the spread of harmful fungi without reducing yield, while remaining safe for both the environment and human health.

The workshop aimed to do two things: first, answering farmers' questions about this new technique and gathering feedback to improve it further; and second, help entrepreneurs better understand the longstanding challenge of sustainable market access to increase profitability.

In the inaugural session, special guest Mr. Rezaul Karim Siddique, renowned media personality and host of the iconic agricultural television show "Mati O Manush", said mushrooms have not reached the grassroots level in Bangladesh in 40 years, mainly because people still doubt whether they are actually proper food. Quality spawn is also not readily available. In addition, due to marketing challenges, mushrooms have not yet been widely accessible to rural populations; they remain popular largely among upper- and middle-income groups.

Jamal Uddin Ahmed, founder of the Priyozon Mushroom Project in Bogura, who has been involved in mushroom cultivation for 20 years, said the dropout rate among mushroom entrepreneurs is as high as 99.9%. From what was once several hundred thousand entrepreneurs, only a handful continue in the sector today. This is despite its many benefits – regular consumption of mushrooms worth only about BDT 5,000 a month by a family can help prevent several chronic diseases.

He also said that the collective effort needed among entrepreneurs to expand the mushroom sector has yet to take shape. The cultivation is an intensive process – from tissue culture to marketing, a precise chain must be maintained throughout. As a perishable product, it requires close oversight in production, processing, packaging, and marketing, but such support has never been adequately provided to entrepreneurs by the authorities.

IUB Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund; Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences Dr. K Ayaz Rabbani; and Head of the Department of Life Sciences Dr. Md Mahmodul Hasan Sohel also spoke at the inaugural session.

In the technical part of the session, Dr. Khandakar delivered a presentation on the new technique. She said it is a knowledge -based business, where achieving good yields requires continuous learning and making incremental adjustments to methods. Rather than limiting the session to cultivation techniques alone, Dr. Jebunnahar also explained the underlying scientific principles, enabling participants to develop a comprehensive understanding of both the methods and their scientific purpose.

Dr. Ikramul Hasan, Head of the Department of Human Resource Management at IUB, highlighted the importance of social media and digital platforms in diversifying market reach and expanding customer bases, encouraging entrepreneurs to build strong, independent brands while also driving collaboration within the sector. He particularly emphasised collective efforts, since the mushroom market in Bangladesh remains underdeveloped and that mutual support can play a crucial role in growth. •

School of Pharmacy and Public Health organizes seminar on measles outbreak



The Department of Public Health of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized a seminar titled "Outbreak Alert: Protecting Our Community from Measles" on April 8, 2026 at the DMK Lecture Gallery on campus.

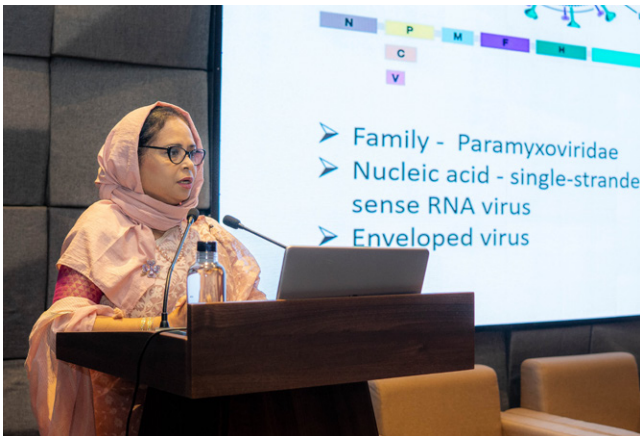
The seminar was organized to raise awareness in the wake of the ongoing measles outbreak in Bangladesh, which has seen many children die of suspected infection and thousands admitted to hospitals across the country.

The event brought together health experts, academics and students to discuss prevention, early detection and response strategies to address the outbreak.

Experts who spoke at the seminar included Prof. Dr. Saif Ullah Munshi, Dean of the Faculty of Basic Science and Para Clinical Science and Director of Super Specialized Hospital at Bangladesh Medical University; Prof. Dr. Tahmina Shirin, Director, Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control & Research (IEDCR) and National Influenza Center (NIC); and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tawfique, Consultant of Paediatrics at Bangladesh Specialized Hospital.

Prof. Dr. Saif Ullah Munshi addressed common questions and clarified misconceptions circulating on social media regarding the measles outbreak. He explained that individuals born after 1990 are generally protected due to vaccination, while those who have previously had measles also develop natural immunity. He further noted that vaccinated mothers can pass protective antibodies to their children, which offer protection up to around nine months of age.

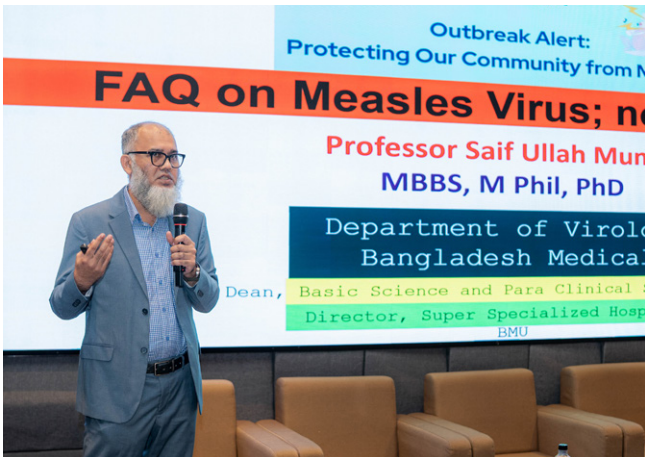
He emphasized that measles is particularly concerning for children aged 1–5 years, as they are at higher risk of severe outcomes, whereas older children are comparatively less likely to face fatal complications. Prof. Ullah noted that measles spreads through the air via coughing and



sneezing, particularly in enclosed spaces such as public transport, classrooms, auditoriums and airports. However, the likelihood of the outbreak becoming a pandemic is low this year due to past vaccination programmes, and that measles does not remain active in the environment unlike some other viruses. He urged ensuring two doses of the measles vaccine for children to achieve maximum immunity.

Prof. Dr. Tahmina Shirin stated that a suspected measles outbreak is defined as the occurrence of three or more cases in a specific area within one month, while two laboratory-confirmed cases within the same period constitute a confirmed outbreak. She noted that recent trends indicate that the majority of cases are occurring among unvaccinated children.

She further explained that the institutional response to measles outbreaks is primarily led by the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), with technical support



from the World Health Organization (WHO) and additional support from the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) as needed.

It is also important to note that the incubation period of measles typically ranges from 3 to 5 days. During this period, symptoms may not be fully apparent, although the virus continues to develop in the body.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tawfique explained that measles may initially seem like a common viral illness, as it presents with symptoms such as fever, runny nose, and rash.

However, he clarified that a rash without accompanying fever or runny nose does not necessarily indicate measles. In typical measles infection, fever starts at a low level, gradually rises to around 101–102°C, and persists for three to four days.

He further noted that the characteristic rash usually appears around the third day of illness. It begins along the hairline on the forehead, around the ears, and at the back of the head, often accompanied by discharge from the eyes and nose, before spreading to the rest of the body.

Even before the rash becomes visible, tiny sandgrain-like Koplik's spots develop inside the mouth, which are considered a key sign of confirmed measles infection. Irritation and itching may persist for three to four days before subsiding.

Prof. Tawfique urged people not to rely on unverified or misleading information circulating on social media regarding the spread or diagnosis of measles. For any suspected symptoms or concerns, he emphasized the importance of consulting a registered medical doctor to ensure accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

IUB Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim chaired the seminar. Dr. Kamran ul Baset, PhD, Dean of IUB's School of Pharmacy and Public Health; and K Ayaz Rabbani, PhD, Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences, also spoke at the seminar. •

Career and Networking Day 2026 attracts over 60 companies



Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized its annual Career and Networking Day on May 20, 2026, drawing participation from over 60 organizations spanning a wide range of industries. The event, organized by the university's Office of Career Guidance, Placement and Alumni Relations (CGP&AR), brought together employers and students for a full day of networking, resume collection, training sessions, and on-campus interviews.

The opening ceremony, held at the Multipurpose Hall, was attended by Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor; and Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor. Also present were deans, faculty members and industry representatives, including Mr. Shyamol B Das, Chief Executive Officer, upay; and Nishat Anwar, Head of Human Resources, City Bank PLC.

Prof. Tamim said, "Industry expectations have changed; they don't have the time to train someone for a year or two. They want job-ready people. That's why we have done a skill mapping, so that students have all the necessary skills and tools when they join a company."

He also said, "Which kinds of jobs will be taken over by AI? The first to disappear will be the repetitive ones. If you are highly skilled only in repetitive work, your job may eventually be replaced, because AI was created not to innovate, but to perform repetitive tasks more efficiently than humans. Companies will look for efficiency and cost savings. That is why you must develop critical thinking skills – areas where innovation and human judgment are still essential."



Drawing from his experience of sitting on interview boards, Prof. Lund said, "There is something about some candidates that you just know is right. Employers know what I am talking about, but students may not know it yet. Whatever that something is, find it within yourself – find the quality that makes you distinguishable and different from others. I request industry representatives to help students understand what



that 'something' means. If you are a student, ask employers what that thing might be, and then find it and define it for yourself."

Highlighting how his company is looking to make a difference in the fin-tech sector, Mr. Das told the students, "The first thing we do is recruit people like you, who know how the next generation is going to behave, and how technology can be used to make the best out of it. Everyone does not have to be a technologist; but you must learn to embrace technology."

Ms. Anwar said, "Every time I come to a university, it reminds me of a simple truth: the future you [students] think about is not really what it is. You need to build your future, and you have to start early. Some of you, who are already ahead of others in terms of thinking, must have started that process a long time ago."

Participating companies this year represented sectors including banking and financial services, FMCG, consulting, ICT, pharmaceuticals, and NGOs. Several organizations conducted walk-in interviews and skill development sessions throughout the day.



From the banking and financial institutions sector City Bank PLC, Bkash, Prime Bank, IDLC, Nagad, Bengal Commercial Bank, and upay set up stalls and interacted with the students. Participating companies from the FMCG sector included Kazi Farms, Square Food & Beverages Limited, ACI PLC, M. Ispahani Limited, Transcom Beverages Limited, and Transcom Electronics Limited. The pharmaceuticals industry was represented by Renata PLC, The ACME Laboratories LTD, Popular Pharmaceutical PLC, and Naafco Pharma PLC.

Other major sectors were represented among others by Meghna Group of Industries (MGI), BRAC, AkijBashir Group, Anwar Group of Industries, Aamra Companies, Bikroy.com, Grameen Healthcare Limited (Shukkhee), Karnaphuli Group, Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Bangladesh (ICSB), Safwan Bashundhara Global, ABC Limited, Rahimafrooz (Bangladesh) Limited, Confidence Batteries Limited, Confidence Cement Dhaka Limited, and Concord Group of Companies.

Mr. Mohammad Manjurul Haque Khan, Director of CGP&AR, said the annual event reflects IUB's ongoing efforts to bridge the gap between academic learning and industry expectations. Thanking the participating companies, he said, "This is a reflection of your commitment to creating future-ready talents, to our society and to our nation as whole."

City Bank PLC and Nagad were the co-sponsors of the event, while Fresh was the beverage partner. News24, The Business Standard and Bonik Barta were the media partners. The inaugural session was moderated by Al-Zawad Islam Shadman, a student from the Department of Management Information Systems. •

CGP&AR drives semester-long career readiness push at IUB

The Office of Career Guidance, Placement and Alumni Relations (CGP&AR) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) ran a series of career-focused events between February and April 2026, spanning skill-building sessions, alumni mentoring, and direct recruitment.



AI for Academic Excellence

On February 3, CGP&AR and the Office of Graduate Studies, Research and Industry Relations (GSRIR) jointly organized a talk titled "AI for Academic Excellence," conducted by Prof. M.S. Sobhan, Certified FinTech and AI Expert and Educator. The session examined the use of artificial intelligence in learning, research support, and academic productivity. Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor; Prof. Dr. M. Arshad Momen, Director of GSRIR; and Dr. Md. Hasan Saimum Wahab, Deputy Director, Industry Relations, GSRIR, also spoke.

Career Finesse

On April 7, CGP&AR hosted the "Career Finesse" workshop by Vulcan Aspire Limited, led by four IUB alumni from the 2014 to 2016 batches. Speakers covered interview preparation, high-ticket career paths, and shaping career direction beyond academic background, including building skills in areas such as artificial intelligence.

Internship Readiness Boot Camp

Held on April 9 and 13, the "IUB Internship Readiness Boot Camp" prepared students for internships and the transition to full-time work. Sessions covered CV writing, LinkedIn profiles, mock interviews, and turning internships into permanent roles, with panel discussions and speakers drawn from organizations including Nagad, RAK Ceramics, Grameenphone, and AkijBashir Group. CGP&AR Director Mohammad Manjurul Haque Khan noted that a competitive internship market requires students to develop specific skills to convert opportunities into employment.

Campus recruitment with Jamuna Group

On April 29, CGP&AR and Jamuna Group organized a campus recruitment drive. Sixteen IUB graduates were interviewed for two executive positions in brand marketing, with direct selection by company representatives.

Alumni in Residence

On April 30, CGP&AR hosted "Alumni in Residence," bringing graduates back to campus to mentor students through talks and one-to-one sessions. Prof. Lund opened the program and presented tokens of appreciation. Alumni from Nagad, Fakir Fashion Limited, Axentec PLC, and City Bank PLC shared professional experiences. Students rotated across four mentoring stations covering career planning, CV preparation, interview readiness, industry expectations, and skill development. •

IUB celebrates Tagore and Nazrul's birth anniversaries



IUB celebrated the birth anniversaries of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam with a cultural event at the university auditorium on May 19, 2026. The event was organized by the Kazi Nazrul Islam and Abbasuddin Ahmed Research & Study Center (KNIAARSC).

Renowned singer A.T.M. Jahangir and his daughter Ameya Protiti performed a number of Tagore songs including O Amar Desher Mati, Majhe Majhe Tobo Dekha Pai, Tomar Holo Shuru, Purano Sei Diner Kotha, Mayabonobiharini Horini. Shuvendu and Nandita and their band Mosey and Co. performed Nazrul songs including Duur Deepobashini, Porodeshi Megh, Amar Aponar Cheye, Darale Duare Mor, Bulbuli, Ami Chirotore, Momero Putul and Anjali Loho Mor.

Earlier, the program began with a performance of IUB Dance Club. Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor, and Prof. Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman, Director of KNIAARSC, spoke at the inaugural segment. •

IUB-ICCCAD short course on climate negotiations

The International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) conducted the online short certificate course titled "Tracking Global Climate Negotiations: Navigating COP without Going to COP" from November 2025 to January 2026. The closing ceremony was held online on February 8, 2026. Ms. Bhumika Shah from Nepal received the First Best Presenter Award, followed by Ms. Farjana Akhter and Ms. Manoshi Bhuyian from Bangladesh. Certificates were awarded to all 39 participants who completed the course. For the course, ICCCAD collaborated with the OECE unit, with support from the Embassy of Sweden in Dhaka and SIDA. Initially, 685 applications came from 55 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. From these, 203 participants were selected, with more than 80 actively participating in the sessions. 39 participants from 13 countries completed all academic requirements. The curriculum addressed Loss and Damage, Climate Finance, the Global Goal on Adaptation, resilience in water, food and agriculture systems, climate justice, and implementation challenges. Instructional methods included expert briefings, structured discussions, reflective learning, and analysis of COP30 developments. •

KSI recognizes Korean language course students

The King Sejong Institute organized a certificate awarding ceremony on May 20, 2026, for students who completed Korean language courses in Autumn 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters.

77 students received certificates of different levels of Korean language study. Among them, 39 students, who scored 80 percent or above in a 400-mark examination, received additional recognition. Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, attended the program as a special guest. Dr. Zakir Hossain Raju, Professor of Media and Communication and Director of KSI, also attended the event along with Korean language faculty members Ms. Eunseon Park and Ms. Ko Dayeon. KSI operates as a collaborative initiative of IUB and the Korean Embassy, in Dhaka as part of the King Sejong Institute network supported by the Government of the Republic of Korea.•

ICCCAD workshop on role of youth in LLA



ICCCAD organized a Youth Capacity Enhancement Workshop on Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) on May 3, 2026. The workshop was organized under the "Generating Ambition for Locally Led Adaptation (GA LLA)" project, supported by the Government of the Netherlands, in collaboration with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). It aimed to build youth capacity on LLA approaches and strengthen understanding of locally driven climate adaptation.

Topics covered at the workshop included principles of LLA, adaptation challenges, climate-related case narratives, and the role of youth in climate action. Sessions included discussion-based learning, storytelling components, and interactive exercises designed to support applied understanding of adaptation frameworks.

Participants comprised youth representatives, researchers, and development practitioners from a number of universities and organizations in Bangladesh. The format enabled exchange on local adaptation contexts and approaches aligned with community-specific climate needs. The program formed part of ongoing capacity-building activities under the GA LLA project, focusing on knowledge exchange and youth engagement in climate adaptation discourse. •

'The Nation & Its Imaginations' conference explores media, culture and national identity



The two-day international conference "The Nation & Its Imaginations", organized by the Department of Media and Communication under the School of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (SLASS) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), concluded on April 10, 2026 at the university's Dhaka campus.

The conference brought together academics, researchers, students and practitioners from Bangladesh and abroad to examine the intersections of media, culture and creative industries, and their role in shaping contemporary notions of the nation.

The inaugural session on April 9 was attended by Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice-Chancellor of IUB; Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor; and Professor Dr. Bokhtiar Ahmed, Dean of SLASS, among others. The opening day keynote was delivered by Prof. Craig Batty, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the College of Creative Arts, Design and Humanities at the University of Adelaide, Australia, focusing on creative practice and research innovation.



In his remarks at the inaugural session, Dr. Imran Firdaus, Head of the Department of Media and Communication and Convener of the conference, highlighted that the primary objective of organizing the conference was to foster meaningful engagement among academia, industry practitioners, and institutional stakeholders within Bangladesh's cultural and creative industries. He noted that the conference also aimed to create a collaborative platform to advance dialogue on the growth of the country's creative industries and to strengthen partnerships between research and practice for sustainable growth in the sector.

The second day began with a keynote by Prof. Lund, who addressed the relationship between media, audience perception and





cognitive dissonance.

Across the two days, four parallel sessions featured a total of 36 research paper presentations by scholars from various universities and institutions. The sessions covered a wide range of themes, including digital economy and platform labor, media globalization and cultural production, gender and representation, youth identity and social media, folk culture and heritage, film and visual media, urban subcultures, and political iconography.

The conference featured three panel discussions. The first, "Pixels, Platforms, and Creativity: Technology Reshaping the Creative Industries," examined the impact of technological change on creative practices. The second, "Diversity Dynamics: Creative and Culture Industries in Flux," focused on evolving structures within the cultural and creative sectors. The final panel, "From Ecosystem to Screen: Sustaining Bangladeshi Cinema," brought together practitioners and academics to discuss the challenges and future of the national film industry.

A workshop titled "Creative Practice Research: Practical Workshop of Imagination in Action" was held on the second day, offering participants insights into research methodologies in media and cultural studies. The conference also included a screening of the film Delupi (2025).

On the evening of the first day, a conference dinner was held, during which the Bangladesh Cultural and Creative Industries Research Group was formally launched. The initiative marks the country's first scholarly network dedicated to the study of culture and creative industries.



Participants included academics from institutions such as the University of Dhaka, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, United International University, American International University-Bangladesh, Daffodil International University, Stamford University Bangladesh, BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology, and others.

The conference provided a platform for interdisciplinary dialogue and critical engagement, with discussions focusing on how media and cultural production continue to shape social, political and economic narratives in Bangladesh. Organizers said the event aimed to contribute to ongoing conversations on the development of the country's creative industries and to encourage collaboration between academia and industry. •

Hasanat begins research degree in digital anthropology of GenAI



Abul Hasanat Bhuiyan, a 2023 graduate of the Anthropology program at IUB, commenced a Master's by Thesis (Research) degree at Southern Cross University, Australia, with a full tuition fee waiver, focusing on the emerging field of digital anthropology and the social and cultural studies of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI).

Bhuiyan's research project, titled "Digital and Spectral Ethnography of AI-Generated Nostalgia among Gen Zs," explores how AI-generated content shapes experiences of nostalgia among younger generations and examines the cultural implications of digitally recreated pasts.

His academic journey reflects an interdisciplinary interest spanning anthropology, memory studies and technology studies. Against the backdrop of the growing integration of AI into everyday life, his work seeks to investigate the social and cultural dynamics surrounding the rise of GenAI.

The research draws inspiration from Bhuiyan's own experience of growing up in a pre-social media era and his longstanding interest in 1980s and 1990s popular culture. Reflecting on feelings of nostalgia for periods he did not directly experience, he became increasingly interested in the widespread presence of AI-generated nostalgic imagery and videos across social media platforms.

This observation led him to examine nostalgia as an emerging cultural phenomenon among Generation Z users, particularly as AI tools increasingly recreate and circulate representations of earlier decades as aesthetic and emotional experiences online.

His study analyses AI-generated videos and images inspired by the 1980s and 1990s, approaching them not merely as entertainment content but as cultural artefacts capable of producing forms of mediated or artificial nostalgia among users who did not directly experience those eras. Through this lens, the research aims to contribute to broader discussions on digital culture, memory and temporality.

Bhuiyan also seeks to develop and expand the concept of spectral ethnography as a methodological approach, combining digital ethnography of social media with theoretical engagement with AI-generated cultural content. The study examines how digital technologies influence the ways people imagine, experience and reconstruct the past in the present.•

Nishat secures sports scholarship at UWE Bristol, UK



Nishat Tasmia, an alumna of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), secured an International Sports Scholarship at the University of the West of England (UWE), Bristol, UK on October 12, 2025.

She also joined the badminton team of UWE, where she is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Business with Digital Management. Her achievements and credentials as an athlete at IUB – in addition to a recommendation from IUB's Division of Student Activities (DoSA) – contributed to her selection in the team.

Nishat, who completed her Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems from IUB in 2025, was a founding member and former Vice President of the IUB Badminton Club.

She was selected for the UWE badminton team through a three-stage trial held in September and October 2025, where she competed against nearly 30 players and placed among the final three selected for the core squad.

Nishat represented UWE in the Female Western Tier 2 and the Female Western Conference Cup and reached the semi-finals in the women's singles category of the latter on February 25, 2026. As part of the university team, she also obtained membership to compete in National Badminton, England, under the university's affiliation. •

Manzila completes remote internship at Saint Louis University, USA

Syeda Manzila Hossain, an alumna of the Department of Environmental Science and Management at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has completed a one-month remote Project Management Early Internship at Saint Louis University in the United States.



The internship, which concluded in 2025, saw her serve as a Project Lead, gaining international professional experience through collaborative project work and weekly deliverables conducted in a virtual format. During the program, Manzila managed weekly project deliverables and worked with international team members under a structured project management framework. The internship concluded with a final presentation of her team's project to the university management.

She received an overall performance score of 84 out of 100 in the program evaluation. As part of the program outcomes, Saint Louis University awarded her a USD 500 scholarship, redeemable toward future higher studies at the institution. •

CGP&AR roundtable engages alumni from diverse sectors



The Career Guidance, Placement and Alumni Relations (CGP&AR) office of IUB organized a roundtable, titled "IUB Alumni Strategic Roundtable: Co-creating the Future of IUB" on May 21, 2026.

The roundtable brought together accomplished alumni from leading organizations across diverse sectors, including banking, telecommunications, education, technology, manufacturing, healthcare, human resources, and business.

Participants shared their professional experiences and industry perspectives, focusing on enhancing student employability, strengthening university–industry collaboration, promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, and expanding alumni engagement initiatives.

During the discussion, the alumni highlighted the growing challenges in the job market and emphasized the need for stronger industry-aligned academic preparation. They noted that enhancing employability required strategic and continuous collaboration between universities and industry leaders.

Alumni participants included Mishael Abu Imam, Head – Mortgage, Wealth & Retail Banking, Standard Chartered Bank; Ismat Jerin Khan, Chairman, Women Development Standing Committee, Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI); Samiul Hassan, Head of IT Strategy & Business Partnering Corporate, Advanced Chemical Industries PLC (ACI); Sayeeka Huq, Managing Director, TalentSharpner; and Julfikar Al Nahian, Head of Merchant Business, Retail Banking Division, City Bank PLC.

Also present were alumni Mohammad Rashidul Hasan, Head of Governance Information Technology Division, Grameenphone Ltd.; Siddiqur Rahman, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Daffodil International University; Amer Yusuf, Managing Director, Papertech Industries Limited; Ebadul Haque Omy, Head of Business Operations, Meghna Bank; Raquib Md Fakhrul, Managing Director, Munshi; and Mohammed K. Haque, Chief Marketing Officer, Grameen HealthTech Limited.

Also present were several faculty members from the School of Business and Entrepreneurship include Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of General Management; and Dr. Ikramul Hasan, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Human Resource Management. •

EEE Alumni Day 2026 reunites 150 graduates



The EEE department organized the "EEE Alumni Day 2026" on April 16, 2026, bringing together alumni, faculty members, students, and guests. More than 150 alumni from different graduating batches attended the program.

Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor of IUB, attended the program as Chief Guest. He discussed the contributions of EEE alumni in academia, industry, research, and entrepreneurship in Bangladesh and abroad, and the role of alumni engagement in university development.

Prof. Dr. Mustafa Habib Chowdhury, Head of EEE, welcomed the participants and presented the department's academic and research activities. Several faculty members from the department also spoke at the program.

The EEE department recognized five faculty members – Prof. Dr. Khosru M. Salim, Prof. Dr. Shahriar Khan, Prof. Dr. Feroz Ahmed, Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak, and Dr. Afroza Sultana – for serving more than 20 years in the department and for their contributions to teaching, research, academic activities, and student development. The alumni were presented with the EEE Alumni Sashes. The event concluded with cultural performances and dinner. •

IB department's Alumni Meetup and Iftar Mahfil

The Department of International Business and the Independent International Business Forum (IIBF), organized the "Alumni Meetup and Iftar Mahfil" on March 6, 2026. The event was attended by Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmood, Dean of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship; along with IB department faculties Dr. Safayet Rahman, Assistant Professor and Head; Hanif Mahtab, Assistant Professor and Director of MBA/EMBA Program; Ashia Khatun Tamanna, Lecturer and Coordinator of IIBF; and Syed Sharaf Mustayin, Lecturer.

Sharmeen Islam, Deputy Director of Career Guidance, Placement and Alumni Relations; Rabiba Rahman Chowdhury, Public Relations Manager; Afnan Yusuf, Lecturer in the Department of General Management; and Labiba Fairuz Hassan, former President of IIBF, also attended the event. The initiative was conceived by Dr. Safayet Rahman and organized by IIBF under the supervision of club President Sajjad Mitul. Following the Iftar and dinner, an alumni–faculty discussion took place, where participants discussed the prospects of establishing a formal Alumni Association of the department to connect alumni with current students and create opportunities for mentorship and professional networking. •

IUB alum Choudhury Qalbin Salim on his ACCA journey

Choudhury Qalbin Salim, an alumnus of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), qualified as a Chartered Accountant with ACCA membership on April 30, 2026. He currently serves as Lead Specialist, Financial Accounting & Reporting at Grameenphone Ltd. He spoke about his qualification journey, the challenges along the way, and his advice for students.



Q: When did you begin the qualification process, and how did it progress?
A: I began as an ICAB student and completed my CA articleship with KPMG Bangladesh from June 2015 to June 2018, following an earlier internship in 2014. I registered with ACCA in June 2016 and began attempting examinations in March 2018. Between March 2018 and March 2019, I cleared all ACCA papers except the final three. In March 2019, I joined Robi Axiata Limited as Manager, Financial Reporting. The role enhanced my industry exposure, but the demanding environment and limited study flexibility made it difficult to continue, so both my ICAB and ACCA pursuits were paused. After joining Grameenphone in December 2024, I resumed the qualification and cleared the remaining three Strategic Professional papers by the March 2026 session — within one year and four months.

Q: Did your IUB degree provide any exemptions?
A: I received exemptions in four ACCA papers.

Q: At what stage did you become an affiliate and then a full member?
A: I became an ACCA Affiliate on April 14, 2026, and was subsequently admitted to ACCA Membership on April 30, 2026.

Q: Did your professional experience count toward ACCA's practical requirements?
A: Yes. I have accumulated over 11 years of experience across KPMG, Robi Axiata and Grameenphone, which significantly contributed to fulfilling the practical experience requirements.

Q: What does ACCA membership mean professionally in your field?
A: It signifies the completion of a globally recognized qualification and demonstrates technical competence in areas such as financial reporting, auditing, taxation and strategic financial management. It validates my ability to apply international standards such as IFRS in real-world scenarios and strengthens my credibility as a finance professional. Beyond technical expertise, ACCA emphasizes ethics, professional judgment and continuous learning, which are critical in today's dynamic business environment. For me, membership reflects a combination of rigorous academic training and more than 11 years of practical experience, ensuring I can contribute effectively to organizational decision-making and uphold the highest standards of integrity in my work.

Q: How did IUB shape your foundation?
A: IUB gave me a strong grounding in accounting and finance, but more importantly it taught me how to think critically and learn independently. That foundation made professional study feel achievable, even when it was demanding.

Q: What is your advice to current students and young graduates?
A: Invest in your fundamentals, stay curious, and be kind to yourself as you learn. Progress may feel slow at times, but consistency will take you far. Most importantly, protect your integrity — your values will shape your career more than any title. •



Prof. Mamun Habib becomes Chair of ACBSP Member Relations Committee



Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of Management under the School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has assumed the role of Chair of the Member Relations Committee of the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), USA, for 2026–27 term.

He formally took over the position from outgoing Chair Dr. Laura De La Cruz, Dean of Advanced Technologies, Doña Ana Community College, USA, during the ACBSP 2026 Annual Conference, held at Sheraton Phoenix Downtown, Arizona, USA, from June 10-13, 2026.

ACBSP has around 2,000 business schools, of which approximately 1,000, including IUB, hold full accreditation, while the remaining 1,000 are members awaiting accreditation. Each member business school is represented in ACBSP Annual Conference and its various committees by an individual – usually a dean or a departmental chair – from the respective institution.

During the conference, Prof. Habib held discussions with Michael D. Wiemer, the new President and Chief Executive Officer of ACBSP; Dennis Brode, outgoing Chair of the Board of Directors (BoD); Dr. Germain Pichop, incoming Chair of the BoD; and Dr. Steven Parscale, Chief Accreditation Officer.

IUB's School of Business and Entrepreneurship received a 10-year accreditation from ACBSP in 2017, with reaffirmation due in 2027.

The accreditation reflects the school's alignment with international standards for business education, with emphasis on teaching excellence, quality assurance, and continuous improvement. •

Md. Safiuddin receives ICMAB's prestigious FCMA recognition



Md. Safiuddin, Senior Lecturer of Accounting at IUB, has been admitted as a Fellow Member (FCMA) of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB).

The prestigious recognition was conferred following the approval of the ICMAB Council, effective March 12, 2026, in acknowledgment of his professional excellence, contributions, and commitment to the accounting profession.

The FCMA designation represents the highest level of professional achievement awarded by ICMAB and reflects significant expertise, ethical standards, and dedication in the field of cost and management accounting. Md. Safiuddin was previously an Associate Member (ACMA) of ICMAB since 2020.

The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) is a statutory body that develops and regulates cost and management accounting professionals in Bangladesh, offering CMA certification and supporting financial management and corporate governance. •

Prof. Shahriar Khan wins best paper award at IEMTRONICS



Dr. Shahriar Khan, Professor of EEE at IUB, received "Best Paper – Reviewer's Choice Award" at the IEMTRONICS conference, held on April 16-18, 2026, at the Imperial College London, UK. He got the recognition for his paper, titled "Power Flow State Variable Estimation of IEEE 39 Bus Transmission System Network Using Multiple Linear Regression". At the conference, he also presented (online) six additional papers, covering topics including artificial intelligence, ChatGPT in science and medicine, industrial revolutions, smart grids, and power generation for data centers. The conference proceedings will be published as book chapters in the Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering series by Springer and indexed in databases including Scopus, DBLP, EI Compendex, and INSPEC. The International IOT, Electronics and Mechatronics Conference (IEMTRONICS) is an international academic forum, that brings together researchers, academics, industry professionals and students to present and exchange ideas. •

IUB faculty members expand global academic footprint in early 2026



Prof. Dr. M Arshad Momen (Physical Sciences) presented a seminar, titled "Infrared Lorentz Symmetry and $z^{\circ} \rightarrow 2\gamma$ decay" on May 13, 2026 at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics Asia-Pacific (ICTP-AP), hosted by the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS). The session was organized by UCAS and ICTP-AP, drawing participation from researchers attending both in person and online. The talk addressed infrared photon effects on Lorentz symmetry in quantum field theory and a theoretical formulation involving dressed charged fields and its implications for the Landau-Yang theorem, including conditions under which a $z^{\circ} \rightarrow 2\gamma$ decay process may arise within the framework discussed. Prof. Momen, who also the Director of the Office of Graduate Studies, Research and Industry Relations (GSRIR) at IUB, explained how infrared photon contributions modify symmetry structures in quantum field theory and how field dressing methods based on Dirac and Mandelstam formulations can alter standard constraints on particle interactions.

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman (English and Modern Languages) delivered a lecture as an invited speaker at the two-day international multidisciplinary



conference, titled Discourses Beyond Boundaries, held on February 13-14, 2026, at Dhanamanjuri University (DMU), Manipur, India. The conference was jointly organized by the Department of English, Dhanamanjuri University, and the English Literary Circle, Manipur, in hybrid mode. It brought together scholars, researchers, and students from different disciplines to examine the intersections of literature, language, culture, identity, and global transformations. Prof. Ahsanuzzaman's lecture addressed themes aligned with the conference focus on crossing linguistic, cultural, and disciplinary boundaries. Drawing on his expertise in modern drama, postcolonial and cultural studies, translation studies, and literary criticism, he discussed how literary discourses respond to shifting global and cultural contexts. His lecture generated discussion among participants on the relevance of interdisciplinary approaches in contemporary humanities research with regard to Shakespeare's productions in Bangladesh. Prof. Ahsanuzzaman has previously held senior leadership positions at public universities in Bangladesh. His participation added an international perspective to the conference deliberations. The Discourses Beyond Boundaries conference aimed to promote critical dialogue across disciplines and regions, encouraging new perspectives on culture, identity, and knowledge production in a globalized world.

Prof. Dr. Abul Hasnat Muhammed Salimullah (Economics) presented a paper titled "The Effects of Technological Innovation on Sustainable Development and Environmental Quality in Bangladesh" at the 63rd Academy of Economics and Finance (AEF) Conference in Economics,



Finance, and Business. The conference was held on February 11-15, 2026, at the DoubleTree Riverfront Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida, USA. Prof. Salimullah examined the impact of technological advancement on sustainable development and environmental quality in Bangladesh. The session included participants from more than 70 universities across 26 US states and eight other countries, with over 140 papers presented. His participation was fully funded by IUB. On February 13, 2026, Prof. Salimullah presented his research at the Development Economics Session III (7A), demonstrating that

technological growth in Bangladesh can contribute to economic development while addressing persistent ecological and environmental challenges. The study was conducted in collaboration with Shapan C. Majumder, PhD; Md. Masud Rana; and Sufian Ahammed. The revised paper is being submitted to the Journal of Economics and Finance (JEF), a peer-reviewed Scopus-indexed publication of the Academy of Economics and Finance published by Springer Nature. Prof. Salimullah also served as a discussant in Development Economics Session II (6E), reviewing Maggie Foley's paper titled "Telehealth and Healthcare Workforce Recovery in the U.S."

Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib (Management) has been appointed a Visiting



(Adjunct) Professor at Samdech Preah Mahasangharajah Bour Kry University (SBKU), Cambodia. Under the appointment, effective from February 2026, Prof. Habib is supervising PhD scholars and delivering courses on Research Methodology and Research Writing. The appointment is for an initial three-year term and includes responsibilities in PhD curriculum development, faculty consultation, and thesis supervision.

An article co-authored by Prof. Habib has been featured in the January 2026 edition of the UAE-based business media platform Logistics Gulf News. The article is titled "Supply Chain Transformation is Essential: Strategic Imperatives for Middle East Business Leaders". Dr. Ferdoush Saleheen, Assistant Professor at the Sharjah Maritime Academy, UAE, was the main author of the article.

Between February and May 2026, Prof. Habib delivered a series of international supply chain lectures. On February 10, he presented on industry-driven sustainable supply chain management at an Edupro UK webinar with the University of Leeds. On February 26–27, he gave a keynote as Guest of Honor at HEALCON 2026 in India on resilient hospital supply chains. On March 18, he joined Business Reporter's UK webinar on the future of supply chains. On April 4, he spoke at an ABP webinar, and on April 21 at Oregon State University, USA, both on global supply chain disruptions. On May 22, he addressed a seminar in Cambodia on global issues in supply chain management.

Prof. Dr. Md Abdul Awal Khan (Law) presented a research paper at the NERPS Conference



2026, held from March 4-7, 2026 at the United Nations University Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. The paper was titled "Challenges in Ensuring Climate Justice for the Marginalized Communities in South Asia: A Study on Bangladesh and the Maldives". It examined climate mobility and legal and policy challenges in addressing climate justice for communities affected by climate change in South Asia, with a focus on Bangladesh and the Maldives. The conference was organized by the United Nations University (UNU) and the Network for Education and Research on Peace and Sustainability (NERPS), with the Hiroshima University as the lead institution. It addressed issues related to peace, sustainability, and climate change through research presentations and academic discussions involving scholars, researchers, and practitioners from several countries. The abstract of the paper was included in the proceedings of the conference, which engaged more than 300 participants from 92 universities and institutions representing 42 countries. Prof. Khan's participation represents the engagement of IUB's School of Law in research and international academic forums addressing climate change, environmental governance, and sustainability. NERPS is an international academic network that promotes research, dialogue, and education on issues related to peace, sustainability, and global governance. It connects scholars and institutions – particularly in Asia – to collaborate on interdisciplinary studies, seminars, and policy discussions addressing global challenges.



Dr. Imran Firdaus, Head of the Department of Media and Communication, and **Dilshad Hossain Dodul**, Senior Lecturer in the same department, have been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Communication and Journalism Educators'



Network (CJEN) Bangladesh. Serving a two-year term from April 2026 to March 2028, they will contribute to the network's strategic planning and activities by coordinating with educators and media professionals nationwide. Dr. Firdaus and Ms. Hossain will take part in the implementation of the network's plans and engage with academic and industry stakeholders.

Dr. Anisur Rahman, Associate Professor of Law, presented a research



paper at a conference titled "Legal History in Asia and Beyond: Lessons from the Past for the Present," organized by the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford, UK, on March 23, 2026. The paper, titled "Indispensable, However, Intolerable: Sayed Ameer Ali and the British Legal Empire in South and Southeast Asia," analyzed the role of Sayed Ameer Ali, the first Indian Muslim judge in the Privy Council, in the expansion of the British legal system in South and Southeast Asia.

The study examined the trajectory of Ameer Ali's legal authority in relation to policy changes concerning the administration of Islamic law in British India. Dr. Rahman discussed Ameer Ali's position within the imperial judiciary and examined how his identity and legal interpretations influenced his career. The paper argued that shifts in legal and administrative approaches contributed to changes in his authority within the colonial legal structure. The study also examined the relationship between his interpretation of Islamic law and his position in the imperial system.

Nahida Akhter Naiema, Lecturer in the Department of Management, participated in the "13th EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum" on March 16–17, 2026 at the Porto Business School, Portugal. She presented a paper, titled "Social Sustainability in the Supply Chain Management of Bangladesh Ready-Made Garments Industry: A Conceptual Analysis." The study examined social sustainability challenges in the ready-made garments sector and proposed a conceptual framework addressing labor conditions, ethical practices, and stakeholder accountability across supply chains. The forum was organized by the European Operations Management Association in collaboration with INESC TEC and Porto Business School. It focused on sustainability



challenges in operations and supply chains under the theme "Challenges for Regenerative Operations and Supply Chains in a 'Polycrisis' World."

Afnan Yusuf, Lecturer in the Department of Management, also participated in the "13th EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum". At the conference, she presented a paper, titled "Integrating Socially Responsible Operational Practices for Fraud Resilient Tourism Supply Chains: Insights from Bangladesh."



The study examined the role of transparency, accountability, and governance in reducing fraud risks in digital tourism platforms and strengthening supply chain resilience.

Zerin Momtaz Chowdhury, Lecturer in the Department of Management, presented a research paper at the AMA Global 2026 Conference, held from May 27–29, 2026, in Nice, France. Hosted by Université Côte d'Azur (IAE Nice), the conference brought together researchers and academics from different countries to present and discuss research on marketing and related fields through parallel sessions. It featured 172



presenters across multiple concurrent sessions. Ms. Chowdhury presented a paper, titled "The Impact of Consumer Trust in Influencers in Selection of Brands: A Mixed Methods Study on Consumers of Bangladesh". The study examined the role of consumer trust in influencers in shaping brand selection decisions among Bangladeshi consumers. "Attending the AMA conference was a rewarding experience, offering opportunities to learn about writing high-quality research papers, engage with scholars, and build meaningful connections that I believe will enrich my future research," said Chowdhury. •

IQAC advances quality assurance through policy consultation, training and international benchmarking

The Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) carried out a series of quality assurance activities between February and April 2026, contributing to national anti-plagiarism policy, training faculty in outcome-based education, and benchmarking practices at three Malaysian universities.

On March 12, IQAC Director Prof. Md. Abdur Razzak joined a stakeholders' workshop in Dhaka on the Draft Anti-Plagiarism Policy for Higher Education in Bangladesh, organized by the Strategic Planning and Quality Assurance Division of the University Grants Commission (UGC). Directors and additional directors of IQAC from 21 public and private universities reviewed the draft, which aims to establish a unified national guideline for plagiarism detection, reporting, and prevention.

In three working groups, participants examined definitions of plagiarism, similarity thresholds, institutional responsibilities, detection software, and research ethics training, and proposed a classification of plagiarism levels. The UGC said the feedback would be incorporated before final adoption.

On April 2, IQAC conducted a faculty development workshop on outcome-based curriculum, teaching-learning, and assessment, attended by 35 faculty members from six schools. Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, inaugurated the workshop, which was conducted by Prof. Razzak and moderated by Prof. Md. Abdul Awal Khan, Additional Director (ETL). Sessions covered Bloom's taxonomy, the formulation of Course Learning Outcomes and their alignment with Program Learning Outcomes, accreditation requirements, and outcome-based assessment tools including assignments, projects, case studies, and structured questions.

In late April, a two-member IQAC delegation of Prof. Razzak and Prof. Khan undertook benchmarking visits to three Malaysian universities. On April 28, they visited the Quality Management and Enhancement Department at Universiti Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, meeting Dr. Tengku Adeline Adura Binti Tengku Hamzah, Director of the Center for Assessment and Capacity Building, to exchange practices on assessment systems and capacity-building. On April 29, they visited the Asia Pacific



On April 29, an IQAC delegation visited the Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation (APU) in Malaysia

University of Technology and Innovation (APU), holding discussions with Deputy Vice Chancellor Dr. Murali Raman, Quality Management Director Ts. Nur Zahdi Aldin, Strategic Research Director Dr. Mohammad Falahat Nejadmahani, and Mohamad Ridzwan Bin Abdul Rahim on academic development, program accreditation, continuous quality improvement, research strategy, and governance. The same day, they visited the Learning Institute for Empowerment (LIfE) at Multimedia University, where Director Dr. Ong Sur Lyn presented work on faculty development, digital teaching tools, continuous quality improvement, and teaching evaluation.

Across the three visits, Prof. Razzak presented IUB IQAC's work on outcome-based education, curriculum review and accreditation, policy development, stakeholder surveys, and faculty development. The institutions identified potential areas of collaboration in academic training, workshops, and joint research on teaching and learning.

The IQAC also held workshops on outcome-based education, reviewing the curricula of the Environmental Science and Management and English Language Teaching programs and training Social Sciences and Humanities faculty in learning outcomes attainment and course file preparation, aligning them with quality assurance standards.

Earlier, on February 26, IQAC held its "New Faculty and Staff Induction Program 2026," orienting 59 new recruits to institutional policies, academic requirements, and operational procedures through sessions led by university offices and inaugurated by Prof. Tamim. •

Prof. Nazrul Islam co-authors book on AI, digital transformation and business innovation





Dr. Nazrul Islam, Professor in the Department of International Business at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has co-authored a new book on digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and business innovation, published by IGI Global, a US-based international academic publisher.

The book, titled Digitech Agility for Business Competitiveness and Innovation, examines how organizations can use digital technologies, agile strategies, and innovation-driven approaches to remain competitive in rapidly changing business environments. It explores areas including artificial intelligence, blockchain, predictive modeling, digital innovation, workforce dynamics, business continuity, and technology-driven competitiveness.

The publication was jointly authored by Prof. Nazrul Islam of IUB; Nazrul Islam of the University of East London, UK; and Serajul Bhuiyan of Savannah State University, USA.

Prof. Nazrul Islam said the publication was developed to address the growing need for businesses and institutions to adapt to rapid technological change while maintaining sustainable and inclusive growth. "Digital transformation is no longer limited to technology adoption alone. Organizations now need agility in strategy, leadership, workforce development, and innovation management to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving global environment," he said.

Prof. Islam has previously served as Pro-Vice Chancellor at Northern University Bangladesh and Canadian University of Bangladesh. He holds a PhD and MBA in International Business from the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, and has held senior academic and administrative positions at several universities in Bangladesh.

An accomplished researcher in business and international management, he has published extensively in international refereed journals, presented papers at global conferences, supervised numerous doctoral and MPhil researchers, and authored four books. •

Prof. Abdur Razzak edits three academic books published by CRC Press and Springer Nature

Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Professor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), edited three scholarly books published by CRC Press, Taylor & Francis; and Springer Nature during 2025-2026.

The publications cover areas such as electrical engineering, computing, information security, and emerging technologies. One book was published by CRC Press, Taylor & Francis, while two volumes were published by Springer Nature. The title of the book published by CRC Press, Taylor & Francis is "Sustainable Electrical Engineering and Intelligent Systems".



This book comprises a selection of papers presented at the International Conference on Sustainable Electrical Engineering and Intelligent Systems (ICSEEIS 2025). It presents a rich repository of groundbreaking research at the intersection of artificial intelligence and electrical engineering for a sustainable future.
The first Springer Nature volume, titled "Data Mining and Information Security: Proceedings of ICDMIS 2024, Volume 2", includes research papers from the International Conference on Data Mining and Information Security (ICDMIS 2024).

The works cover data mining, information security, intelligent systems, communication technologies, machine learning, Internet of Things (IoT), cybersecurity and computational applications.

The second Springer Nature volume titled "Data Mining and Information Security: Proceedings of ICDMIS 2025, Volume 1" includes research papers from the International Conference on Data Mining and Information Security (ICDMIS 2025). The volume compiles work related to machine learning, IoT, cybersecurity, and intelligent communication systems. The publications contribute to the international research profile of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at IUB and support academic dissemination in engineering and technology. •

SBE researchers collect data AI integration in hospitality industry



Researchers from SBE conducted a field visit in Cox's Bazar on May 17-20, 2026, to collect primary data for an IUB-funded research project titled "Service Quality Management in the Hospitality Industry: Exploring the AI-Integrated Approach". They interviewed collected hospitality industry stakeholders and examined the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in service quality management. The project is led by Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of Management at IUB, as the Principal Investigator. Farzana Chowdhury and Seeratus Sabah, Senior Lecturers in the Department of Management, serve as Co-Investigators. They are supported by Research Assistants Tamim Forhad Shuvo and Jannatul Ferdous Oishy, final semester students of SBE. Tamim and Jannatul conducted the field visit and collected data from management professionals and guests at hospitality establishments in Cox's Bazar, including Sayeman Beach Resort, Ramada by Wyndham Cox's Bazar, and Best Western Heritage. Interviews were conducted with human resource managers, cluster general managers, front desk managers, marketing managers, receptionists, and hotel guests. •

Manzila and Mahir present thesis paper at ICSD 2026 at UIU

Syeda Manzila Hossain and Al Mahir Naiv, students of climate change, environmental science and management, presented a thesis paper at the "8th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Towards a Green Future" on April 11, 2026, at UIU.

Their paper, titled "Evaluating the Efficacy of Nature-Based Solutions and Passive Design in Reducing Urban Heat Island Impacts: A Case Study of Dhaka", was presented under the theme of Sustainable Cities. Manzila is an MSc student and Al Mahir Naiv is a BSc student.

The conference management committee issued certificates to both authors, and the abstract was included in the conference proceedings.

The "8th International Conference on Sustainable Development (ICSD 2026): Towards a Green Future", organized by the Institute of Development Studies and Sustainability (IDSS) of United International University (UIU), was held on April 11–12, 2026 at the UIU campus in Dhaka.

The conference served as a platform for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to exchange ideas on key sustainability challenges, with thematic focus areas including climate change, energy transition, sustainable cities, water and delta governance, agriculture, and the circular economy. The 2026 edition drew strong international participation, with hundreds of research papers submitted from multiple countries. •

3rd IUB Undergraduate Law Students' Research Conference features student from 20 unis

School of Law organized 3rd Undergraduate Law Students' Research Conference" on May 7-8, 2026, with participation from 20 universities across Bangladesh. The conference focused on contemporary legal issues through research paper presentations and panel evaluations. 56 papers were submitted by students from 8 public and 12 private universities, of which 40 papers were selected for presentation in 10 sessions. The papers covered topics such as structural discrimination, cyber law, artificial intelligence, environmental crises, constitutional reform, stray animal protection, and digital rights. Prof. Dr. Borhan Uddin Khan, Advisor to the School of Law, attended the inaugural session as chief guest. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, Head of the Department of Law, delivered the welcome address. Dean of the School of Law Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nazmuzzaman Bhuian also spoke during the session. Panelists included Prof. Dr. Rumana Islam and Dr. Taslima Yasmin from the University of Dhaka; Prof. Dr. Md. Rizwanul Islam from North South University; Dr. Robayet Ferdous Syed from American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB); Dr. Nabaat Tasnima Mahbub from East West University; Dr. Afroza Bilkis from the Bangladesh Competition Commission. •

Hla Thoaiching Marma represents SCMLE at AUW's Indigenous Knowledge Conference



Hla Thoaiching Marma, Program Manager of SLASS, presented his research on the revival and indigenous language the First Annual Conference on Indigenous Knowledge. At the conference, organized by the Indigenous Peoples' Center (IPC) of the Asian University for Women (AUW) at the Cultural Institute of Minority Ethnic Group in Khagrachhari on April 10-11, 2026, Hla Thoaiching, who SCMLE, also chaired a session.

His paper focused on the revival of indigenous language under an ongoing collaborative initiative, while the academic session he chaired focused on cultural preservation and integration of indigenous knowledge into research and education. As part of the engagement, he also took part in a field visit to a community forest (Village Common Forest/Mouza Bon) and the Alutila Tourist Cave Park to examine local conservation practices. The conference featured government officials, traditional leaders, academics, researchers, and artists from Bangladesh and the broader South Asia region. Sessions covered topics such as indigenous knowledge systems, multilingual education, environmental practices, gender diversity, and community-based knowledge. •

IUB students continue to excel in multiple sports disciplines



Major success in EWU inter-university badminton tournament

The badminton team of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) clinched three championship and two runners-up titles in five different categories in an inter-university badminton championship at East West University (EWU). The tournament, titled "SMC Presents East West Winter Smash 2026", was held at EWU on April 6-10, 2026.

Jawad Hafiz (BBA, Accounting) lifted the Men's Singles title while the duo of Tasnim Noor (BBA, Accounting) and Tasfia Tashnim Tuba (MBA, Finance) became Champions in Women's Doubles. The team of Mostafa Anik (BBA, Marketing) and Tasnim Noor clinched the Mixed Doubles title.

Meanwhile, the teams of Anas Hasan Shawon (BBA, HRM) and Jawad Hafiz; and Tasfia Tashnim Tuba and Ashfak Bin Ferdous (BA, ELT) finished as Runners-up in Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles respectively.

Among the players, Tuba was a recipient of the Sports Activities Award at the 25th Convocation of IUB. The coaching staff included Md. Tipu Sultan and Tanin Rahman Tushar, who won the same award at the 26th and 24th Convocation of IUB respectively.

The IUB badminton team was managed by Syed Al Mohin Rakib (BBA, Marketing). The Division of Student Activities (DoSA) of IUB supported the team by facilitating training and coordination.

Intra-IUB Badminton Championship 2026

The Division of Student Activities (DoSA) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) and the IUB Badminton Club organized the Intra IUB Badminton Championship 2026 from February 2-16, 2026. A total of 202 participants – including 110 male students, 70 female students and 22 faculties and officials – competed in the tournament across eight categories.

In Men's Singles, MK Abir (BBA) became champion, and Md Israk (BBA) finished as the runner-up. In Men's Doubles, the team of Tanin Rahman Tushar (BBA Alum) and Farhad Hossain (ELT Alum) clinched the title, while Shah Raiman Rashid (ELT) and Al Shahed (BBA) ended as runners-up. The Men's Doubles (Club) title was secured by Tipu Sultan (BBA) and Ashfak Bin Ferdous (DEML), with Anas Hasan Shawon (BBA) and Ahadur Rahman Emon (DEML) finishing as runners-up.

In Women's Singles, Afrina Akter Akhi (Law) won the championship and Jebun Nahar Simi (CSE) became runner-up. The Women's Doubles title went to Riyajul Zannat Urdho (CSE) and Nongmaithem Sanjana (BBA), while Afrina Akter Akhi (Law) and Nigar Sultana Papri (BBA) were runners-up.

In Mixed Doubles, Tanin Rahman Tushar (BBA Alum) and Raisa Khan Mahin (BBA) became champions, and Md Israk (BBA) and Mantasha Hassan Shethe (BBA) finished runners-up. The Mixed Doubles (Club) category was won by Jawad Hafiz (BBA) and Tasnim Noor (BBA), while Tipu Sultan (BBA) and Jebun Nahar Simi (CSE) were runners-up.

In the Officials' Doubles category, Kazi Din Muhammed (Deputy Director and Head, P&D) and Golam Murad Chowdhury (Assistant Director, CITS) won the title. Dr. Md Ahsan Ul Bari (Assistant Professor, Life Sciences) and Arko Ayon Chowdhury (Lecturer, Life Sciences) finished runners-up.

Matches were conducted in knockout format, with the final rounds held on the closing day. Atif M Safi, Head of DoSA, attended the prize-giving ceremony and distributed trophies and certificates among participants.



IUB champion in Inter-University Table Tennis Fest 2026

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) emerged as the Champion in the elite-level men's team category at the Inter-University Table Tennis Fest 2026, while a female IUB student secured a fourth-place finish in the elite-level women's singles event.

The two-day tournament, organized by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation (BTTF), was held on February 16–17, 2026 at the Shaheed Taj Uddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium in Dhaka. The competition featured 174 male and 36 female players from 36 universities across the country, including several nationally ranked players.

The IUB men's team won the elite-level title after defeating Dhaka University in the final. On their way to the championship, IUB overcame Daffodil International University in the semifinals and American International University-Bangladesh in the quarterfinals. The championship win earned the team a trophy and prize money of Tk 15,000.

The IUB men's team comprised Ramhimlian Bawm (Social Sciences and Humanities), Rifat Mahmud Sabbir (Media and Communication), MD. Talha (Computer Science and Engineering), Talukdar MD Abdullah (Computer Science and Engineering), and Mohammad Zubair Khan Pritom (Marketing).

In the women's singles elite category, Mst. Empa Khatun (Social Sciences and Humanities), a resident of Saima Hall, finished fourth after competing against players from Jagannath University and Dhaka University. Sharmin Islam Shroddha (Computer Science and Engineering), reached the quarterfinal stage. The

other member of the women's team was Sadia Tabassum Shawon (Microbiology).

The prize-giving ceremony was held on February 17, at the Shaheed Taj Uddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium. The event was sponsored by Turaag Active. The IUB teams were coached by senior coach Md. Hafizur Rahman, assisted by coach Md. Kamruzzaman. The teams' participation was coordinated by the Division of Student Activities (DoSA).

Ramhimlian Bawm is a former men's singles national champion (2020) and a boys' team champion at the South Asian Junior Championship 2022, while Rifat Mahmud Sabbir previously won gold in national level men's singles event in 2020 and represented Bangladesh in the men's team event at the Commonwealth Games 2022.

Monika achieves WSF Level-2 certification

Marjan Akter Monika, squash coach at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has achieved



the Level-2 certification under the World Squash Federation (WSF) after completing a six-day training program held in Dhaka. With this, she becomes the only female squash coach in Bangladesh to have the prestigious certification.

The Level-2 certification, awarded by WSF, is an intermediate coaching qualification designed to develop coaches beyond basic instruction. The certification is typically pursued by coaches who have prior training and experience, and it enables them to work with developing and competitive players while progressing toward higher-level coaching standards.

The Division of Student Activities (DoSA) of IUB, in collaboration with the Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation, hosted the training sessions of the "WSF Level-2 Squash Coaching Course 2026" from April 20 to April 26 at IUB and other venues in the capital. The program involved coaches from multiple countries and focused on developing professional coaching capacity through structured training.

Morning sessions were held at the IUB Squash Court from April 20 to April 25. Additional sessions took place at Bashundhara Sports City, while the course concluded at the Army Squash Complex, Dhaka, on April 26. During the closing, State Minister for Youth and Sports Mr. Aminul Haque handed over certificates to the participants.

The course was conducted by Maj. S. Maniam, Lead Tutor of the World Squash Federation, Malaysia, with Mr. Fazle Wali Ahmed serving as Assistant Tutor. Participants included coaches from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Malaysia and Hong Kong.

The program was inaugurated on April 20 at IUB by Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, as the chief guest. Brig. Gen. Quamrul Islam (Retd.), General Secretary of the Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation, along with officials, participants and squash players, attended the session.

The training covered coaching techniques, match analysis,



physical conditioning, and rules through practical and classroom-based sessions. Organizers said the course aimed to build certified coaching capacity and support the development of squash training standards through international collaboration, with plans to continue such initiatives.

Urdho Champion in President Youth Squash 2026

Riazul Jannat Urdho, a student of Computer Science and Engineering at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), won the Under-23 Girls' Championship title at the 1st President Youth Squash 2026.

Organized by the Bangladesh Squash Federation on April 1-3, 2026, at the Army Officers Mess Alpha and Army VIP Complex, the tournament was held to select players for the National Youth Games and was conducted through a league and knockout format.

Urdho played a total of eight matches, including seven in the league stage, to secure the title. She was trained by IUB's Squash Coach Marjan Akter Monika, while the Division of Student Activities (DoSA) supported her participation. She received the championship certificate on April 3, 2026.

IUB runner-up at National Chess Carnival at NDC

The Chess team of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) secured the Runner-up position at the 10th National Chess Carnival held from April 13-15, 2026, at Notre Dame College, Dhaka. The IUB team competed against teams from schools, colleges, and universities coming from different parts of the country under FIDE regulations.

The IUB team – called the "IUB Mittens" – comprised Amit Bikram Roy (Computer Science and Engineering), Justin Mathias Baroi (International Business), Swarnavo Chowdhury (Computer Science and Engineering), and guest player Miraj Uddin Ahmed. The team scored 9 points in 5 matches, tying for first place on points but finishing second based on the Buchholz tie-break system among nearly 50 teams.

The second IUB team, "IUB Masterminds", scored 5 points from 5 matches and finished 20th in the standings. Justin Mathias Baroi also secured third place in the online segment of the tournament, which included nearly 100 participants. The tournament was organized by the Notre Dame Chess Club. IUB's chess activities are guided by Grandmaster Dr. Niaz Murshed, Adviser to the university's chess club. •



An active semester for IUB Programming Club



The IUB Programming Club marked a busy spring semester with a programming contest and two industry-linked workshops in April 2026, spanning competitive coding, web development, and enterprise software.

The club, together with the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), held the Intra-IUB Programming Contest (IIPC) Spring 2026 on April 11. The event tested students' programming, logical reasoning, and problem-solving skills and was run in Junior and Senior categories based on academic level and problem-set difficulty. Dr. Asif Mahmood, Assistant Professor of CSE, and Sajed Imtenanul Hoque, Lecturer of CSE, judged the contest, which carried a total prize pool of BDT 24,000. Students from CSE and other departments took part.

In the Senior Category, Ikram Hossain Akif placed first, Ahnaf Abdullah was Runner-Up, and Rabiul Islam Raihan finished as 2nd Runner-Up. In the Junior Category, Md. Minhazul Islam Khan placed first, Md. Rashedul Islam Sabbir was Runner-Up, and Arif Saharia Shihab finished as 2nd Runner-Up.

The club also ran two industry workshops during the month. A two-day programme titled "Build Your Future: Start with React" was held on April 9 and 11 in collaboration with the Creative IT Institute, combining classroom training with an industry visit. Sessions were led by Elias Bhuiyan, Faculty Member, MERN Stack; Abdul Aziz, Executive, Business Development; and Shanin Chowdhury, Junior Executive, Business Development, of Creative IT Institute. They covered React concepts, component structure, and applications in web development, with participants completing coding exercises, project-based tasks, application development work, and question-and-answer sessions.

Earlier, on April 2, the club organised a workshop titled "Future of Jobs: Enterprise Resource Planning and Global Career Opportunities" with Dot BD Solutions Limited (DBSL). The programme introduced students to enterprise systems and global career pathways through sessions and practical demonstrations of ERP tools. It was conducted by DBSL officials Md Rajibul Islam, Chief Executive Officer; Md Shaifuddin Nayeem, Chief Business Officer; and Md Rafiur Rahman Rafit, Technical and Functional Consultant.

Participants worked hands-on with Odoo ERP, learning how organisations manage inventory, finance, and operations within a unified system, along with the career roles tied to ERP platforms. The speakers also outlined how ERP integrates across business functions in industry.

Together, the three events combined competition, technical training, and industry exposure for students across the university. •

Debate Club celebrates International Women's Day 2026



IUB Debate Club (IUBDC) organized a program marking the International Women's Day on March 8, 2026, bringing together faculty members, administrative staff, and students to discuss women's experiences and gender issues. The program, organized around the theme "What Is It Like Being a Woman?", included discussions addressing misconceptions related to gender and a debate on feminism. Participants discussed social and institutional experiences of women and engaged in exchanges on gender roles and equality. Speakers included Lima Choudhury, Director of Admissions, Financial Aid and International Relations; Dr. Naureen Rahnuma, Assistant Professor and Head of the Department of English and Modern Languages (DEML); and Ms. Israt Taslim, Lecturer, DEML, IUB. They discussed women's experiences in professional and academic settings and the role of dialogue and student platforms in public discussion on gender issues. Dr. Qudrate Khoda, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Social Sciences and Humanities; and Dr. Hafiza Nilofar Khan, Associate Professor of DEML, also shared their perspectives on the importance of recognizing women's voices and contributions within academic spaces. During the program, members of the IUB Debate Club, who represented IUB in debate competitions and related platforms, were recognized. •

Marketing students apply learning during IMA's 'Skill 2 Sell' program

The Department of Marketing and IMA organized the finale of skill development and industry relations program, titled "Skill 2 Sell", on April 11, 2026. The finale brought together students, faculty, alumni, and industry representatives and included workshops, presentations, a three-day fair, and an alumni interaction session. The finale opened with remarks from Md. Azzaj Ur Rahman, Club Coordinator of IMA. Prof. Dr. S M Sohel Rana, Head of the Department of Marketing, and Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmud, Dean of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship, addressed the participants. Prof. Dr. M Tamim, Vice Chancellor, attended as chief guest. Mr. Syed Alamgir attended as guest of honour. They discussed the role of applied learning and industry engagement in marketing education. The "Skill 2 Sell" program ran over three months and included sessions on brand development, digital marketing, and sales techniques. During the three-day fair, participants set up stalls on campus, selling a wide range of products, and interacted with customers to apply their learning. •

IES workshop on AI-powered web app

The Independent Economics Society (IES), an active student club of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), organized online "AI-Powered Web App Creation Event" on February 5, 2026. The aim was to introduce students to practical AI-based web application development through an online, hands-on workshop using an AI creation platform.

The event was conducted in collaboration with FeiHang Tech, an AI creation platform based in Singapore and Hong Kong. More than 100 students from different schools of IUB participated in the session.

The event included a workshop that covered the development and application of AI-driven tools, including AI-based photo generation, background removal, and automated agent systems. The session focused on the use of generative AI tools to build functional web applications with minimal programming requirements.

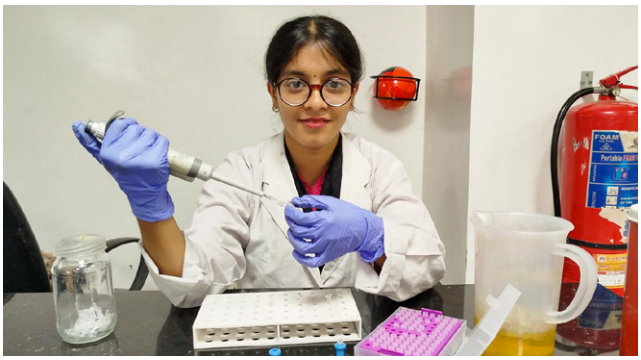
Participants were guided through the process of creating AI-powered web applications, including interface interaction, design generation, visual refinement, and application publishing. The session emphasized practical use cases of AI in digital product development and productivity-oriented applications. •

Art Club's 'Chalanta Canvas Chapter 4' in Chattogram



The IUB Art Club (IUBAC organized "Chalanta Canvas Chapter 4 – A tour for a cause" at the Chittagong Rotarian City School on April 25, 2026, as part of its initiative to promote art-based community engagement and creative learning among children. It engaged children from underprivileged backgrounds in a guided painting session on a 5x5 feet canvas under the theme "My School," encouraging participants to reflect on their environment, daily experiences and aspirations through art. It also created an opportunity for interaction between university students and schoolchildren During the session, children created artworks depicting classrooms, friendships, playground memories, and everyday routines. The activity followed an open participation, time-bound workshop format, allowing students to engage freely while receiving guidance from volunteers. A collaborative canvas activity was also arranged, where children and IUBAC members contributed together. 40 IUB students, including executive board and general members of IUBAC, took part in the interactive session. •

Aurpita awarded NST fellowship for research on improving heat tolerance of rice



Aurpita Rani Paul, MS student in the Department of Life Sciences at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has been awarded the National Science and Technology (NST) Fellowship 2025-2026 under the Food and Agricultural Science category.

The NST Fellowship is awarded by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Government of Bangladesh to selected student researchers based on scientific merit and relevance to national research priorities, particularly in food security, agriculture, and climate resilience.

Aurpita's research proposal, titled "Improving Heat Tolerance in Rice Variety (Oryza sativa) through CRISPR/Cas9-Mediated Knockout of HTA1 Gene," is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Sabrina M Elias, Associate Professor, Department of Life Sciences.

The research focuses on CRISPR/Cas9 genome-editing to investigate the functional role of the HTA1 gene in rice under heat stress conditions. The study is designed to evaluate gene knockdown effects on thermal stress response in Oryza sativa, with application relevance to climate stress adaptation in rice cultivation systems.

Dr. Elias supervised the academic development and technical framing of the research proposal within the Life Sciences program at IUB, supporting its submission for national-level competitive funding. The original full research study is being supported by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, a project granted to Dr. Elias. •

Four IUB law graduates selected for prestigious AGO-UNDP Legal Internship Program 2026



Four graduates from the School of Law of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) have been selected for the prestigious Legal Internship Program jointly organized by the Office of Attorney General, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh; and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The graduates are Mst. Rafia Islam, Mst. Jannatul Mawa, Md. Rasel, and Zakaria Islam, who were chosen through a national selection process involving candidates from universities across Bangladesh.

The internship program, scheduled to begin in March 2026, provides participants with direct exposure to legal research, case preparation, and public law proceedings under supervision at the country's highest legal office. It also aims to strengthen practical legal skills and understanding of institutional legal functions within the public sector.

The selection reflects continued participation of graduates from the School of Law of IUB in national professional training initiatives aligned with public service and legal practice development. The School of Law integrates advocacy training, mooting activities, and research-based legal education to prepare students for professional legal engagement. •

Shakila becomes 2nd runner-up in 'Deep Learning in Computational and Spatial Biology' competition at UIU

Shakila Tamasum, a student of Biochemistry and Biotechnology at IUB, became 2nd Runner-up in the Semi-Inter-University Competition titled "Deep Learning in Computational and Spatial Biology 2025". Hosted by United International University from April 26, 2025 to May 10, 2025, the competition brought together students from multiple universities to present applications of artificial intelligence (AI) in biological research. Participants addressed computational biology problems through applied machine learning methods. Her project applied an unsupervised machine learning approach to cluster biosurfactant-producing bacteria based on genomic features. The work focused on identifying biological patterns without the use of pre-labeled data through computational analysis.The organizers issued the official e-certificate on March 17, 2026. •

Fatema becomes champion in poster presentation at 6th International Young Biotechnologist Congress 2026 at DU



Fatema Binte Younus, a master's student of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has become champion in the Poster Presentation segment (Food and Agriculture Category) of the 6th International Young Biotechnologist Congress 2026 at University of Dhaka (DU).

Held at the Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban of DU on April 25, 2026, the event was organized by the Network of Young Biotechnologists of Bangladesh (NYBB).

Fatema's poster, titled "Enhancing Food Value and Flavor: Introducing Koji-Based Fermented Foods Using Indigenous Bangladeshi Rice," impressed judges with its innovation and relevance. The project focused on using local rice varieties to develop koji-based fermented foods.

Koji is made by fermenting grains such as rice with a natural mold called Aspergillus oryzae, a method that originated in East Asia, particularly Japan. The process enhances flavor, improves digestibility, and increases the nutritional value of food, making it widely used in both traditional and modern food preparation.

The project was conducted as part of her internship under the supervision of Dr. Arafat Al Mamun, Principal Scientist, Centre for Advanced Research in Sciences (CARS) of DU; and Dr. Jannatul Ferdous, Assistant Professor of Life Sciences at IUB.

The study highlighted how fermentation can enhance nutritional value, improve gut health and digestibility, enrich flavor and offer a sustainable and culturally adaptable approach to food innovation in Bangladesh.

The "Future Biotech Summit" and the "6th International Young Biotechnologists Congress 2026" were organized to mark the International DNA Day. The events brought together around 550 participants from academia, research, and industry, including international experts, to discuss advancements in biotechnology, genomics, and AI under the theme "Omics and AI 2026." •

SLASS student twins receive Film for Change 2026 incubation grant



Two students from the School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (SLASS) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) have received the prestigious Film for Change 2026 grant. They are Riasat Salekin (Media and Communication major and Anthropology minor) and Sayrat Salekin (Anthropology major and Media and Communication minor).

Film for Change 2026 is a national film incubation initiative launched by CinemaScope, the film apprenticeship program of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), in collaboration with Oxfam in Bangladesh, to support emerging filmmakers through production funding, mentorship, and technical guidance for socially engaged filmmaking.

The incubation initiative supports film projects addressing themes including social justice, climate resilience, and economic inequality through structured incubation and guided production development.

Riasat and Sayrat are twin brothers. Their project, The Hanging Gardens of Bancharam, has received a production grant of up to BDT 100,000. In addition, they will also receive mentorship and technical support from industry professionals and academics under the program.

Their selection reflects ongoing academic engagement within IUB's Department of Media and Communication in practice-based media education and interdisciplinary storytelling aligned with socially relevant communication practices. •



IUB Debate Club finished as a finalist in an inter-university debating competition held in April 2026 at BUTEX, Dhaka



IUB Rover Scout Group organized a three-day "Adventure Camp" in Rangamati from April 25 to 27, 2026



The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award at Independent University, Bangladesh (DEA IUB) organized the "Adventurous Journey Summer 2026" from May 7-8 at Foy's Lake Basecamp in Chittagong



The Independent HR Society (IHRS) organized its Spring Orientation 2026 and announced the new Executive Board on April 11, 2026



The IUB Library observed the National Library Day 2026 on February 5, 2026



The Department of Pharmacy organized the "Freshers" Reception Program" on May 7, 2026, for students of batches 17-20



The Department of Social Sciences and Humanities organized "Choitra Shankranti Utshob 1432" on April 13, 2026



The COLOCAL Project of ICCCAD-IUB organized the "From Thesis to Publications: A Workshop on Academic and Non-Academic Writing Pathways" on May 17, 2026



The Hult Prize at IUB organized a workshop on February 17, 2026, at the Grameenphone House



The Grand Finale of Hult Prize at IUB was held on February 22, 2026



Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib attended the "National Science Fair and Co-Curricular Competition 2026" on May 17, 2026 at Bangladesh Navy School & College, Dhaka



The Department of Human Resource Management organized a poster presentation session on April 16, 2026, where student groups presented analyses of selected non-fiction books

Prof. Sapienza conducts skill-building workshops for IUB faculty, staff, and students



Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Sapienza, Vice Rector of International Affairs at the International Agrarian University at Tashkent, Uzbekistan, conducted a series of skill-building workshops and sessions at IUB in 2026. The main workshop, titled "Effective Presentation Skills and Template Building for Curriculum Design," was designed for early-career faculty members and focused on developing presentation slides aligned with course content and curriculum requirements. On March 2, Prof. Sapienza conducted an academic motivation session focusing on learning approaches, habits, and goal setting. More than 40 students and faculty members participated.

On March 4, he conducted a professional development session on effective presentation skills for administrative professionals. Around 60 staff members from academic and administrative units participated in the session, which focused on presentation structure and communication methods. •

Life Sciences supports Bangladesh Team at Open International Biology Olympiad 2026 in Russia

The Department of Life Sciences served as academic partner for the Bangladesh team at the Open International Biology Olympiad (OIBO) 2026, held from May 15-22, 2026, in Russia.

It was Bangladesh's first entry into the Olympiad, supported through academic preparation coordinated by the Sustainability and Life Sciences Network (SLSN), with support from Southeast Bank PLC.

The Bangladesh delegation included Taseen Mohammad of BIAM Model School and College and Rupkotha Roy of Government Harganga College. They were led by Afia Nowshen, Lecturer of Life Sciences at IUB. The Olympiad included theoretical and practical examinations, and a project round, with participation from more than 100 students representing more than 20 countries. •

DESM, OECE organize short course on disaster health and climate resilience

DESM and OECE ran a short course titled "Improving Disaster Health and Climate Resilience at the Expanded Environmental Crisis in Nepal and Bangladesh" on April 26, 2026. It was an activity under the "Risk-E-Scape" project, implemented through a partnership among IUB, DU, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, University of Salerno, Universidad Fernando Pessoa, Pokhara University, and Kathmandu University. The project focuses on disaster health, disaster risk reduction, and climate adaptation in Nepal and Bangladesh. The course included eight modules on disaster response, humanitarian medicine, community engagement, population movement, leadership, and communication, and a field exercise. Sessions were conducted by Dr. Rabbani; Md. Ekhtekharul Islam, PhD Fellow, University of Copenhagen; Dr. Suraiya Akter Jemy, Senior Lecturer of Public Health at IUB; Ms. Kazi Sunzida Lisa, Senior Lecturer in the DESM at IUB; and Shaikh Sayed Ahammed, PhD Fellow, Lincoln University College. •

Community training on solar-based electric rickshaw charging in Mymensingh



GERC, OECE and EEE department conducted the "Awareness and Training Workshop on Solar-based Electric Rickshaw Charging for Rural People" on May 10, 2026, at Char Bhabanipur, Konapara, Mymensingh. It trained rickshaw drivers, owners, local technicians and community members on solar-powered charging systems. Dr. Khosru Mohammad Salim, Director of GERC, conducted the technical sessions along with EEE Adjunct Faculty members Mohammad Rejwan Uddin and Md. Imtiaz Abedin. Students from the department participated in the program as volunteers. The sessions covered solar charging system components, installation and charging procedures, battery maintenance, troubleshooting methods, and the economic aspects of solar-powered electric rickshaw charging. Participants also learned about the application of renewable energy technologies in rural transportation. •

Admissions office hosts information session for prospective undergrad students



The Admissions, Financial Aid and International Relations office organized the "Undergraduate Admission Information Session" and campus visit for the Summer 2026 semester on April 19, 2026. At least 60 HSC and A-level students and their parents and guardians visited the IUB campus. to gather information on admission requirements, academic structure, and student life through presentations, discussions, and a guided campus visit.

Ms. Lima Choudhury, Director of Admissions, delivered the opening remarks. Mr. Atif M. Safi, Head of the Dvision of Student Activities (DoSA), outlined student life and co-curricular activities. Mr. Asif Parvez, Registrar, explained administrative procedures while Prof. Dr. Bokhtiar Ahmed, Dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, presented the academic structure and admission process.

Student representatives Mr. Mohammad Rabbi and Ms. Onamika Yesmin shared their experiences at IUB, including academic support, counselling, and financial aid. •

IUB hosts national round of Bangladesh Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad

CASSA and the Department of Physical Sciences hosted the the National Round of the 9th Bangladesh Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics on 18 April. 204 students qualified through regional and e-regional rounds. Participants also attended an "Exclusive Study Abroad Workshop" conducted by DP Tutorials. The closing ceremony was attended by Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor; Dr. Habib Bin Muzaffar, Dean of SETS; Prof. Dr. M. Arshad Momen, Director of (GSRIR; and Dr. Rifat Ara Rouf, Head of the Department of Physical Sciences. A public lecture titled "How fast is the universe expanding?" was delivered by Dr. Syed Ashraf Uddin, Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Sciences, followed by a question-and-answer session. Dr. Khan Muhammad Bin Asad, Director of CASSA, delivered the vote of thanks. Winners from the Junior and Senior categories received medals and certificates and were selected for further preparation for IOAA 2026. •

Law School seminar discusses Global Legal Governance

School of Law organized a seminar titled "Global Legal Governance from Asian Perspectives" on March 9, 2026, to discuss issues in international law and global governance through presentations and discussion sessions.

Dean Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nazmuzzaman Bhuian moderated the seminar. The program opened with remarks by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, Head of the Department of Law. Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor, attended as Chief Guest. Presentations were delivered by Dr. Takao Suami, Professor Emeritus at Waseda University, Japan; and Dr. Toshiki Mogami, Professor Emeritus of International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan.

Other presenters included Prof. Dr. Md. Abdul Awal Khan, from IUB's Department of Law, who focused on constitutional supremacy, state sovereignty, and cross-border climate mobility in South Asia; Kiwako Murata, Research Fellow at the School of Law of Kyoto University, Japan, on criminal procedure, habeas corpus, and rule of law issues in Bangladesh. Prof. Dr. Borhan Uddin Khan, Advisor to the IUB School of Law; and Prof. Dr. Mohammad Shahabuddin, from the University of Birmingham, UK, commented and discussed on the presentations. •

IUB welcomes more than 1,600 new undergraduate students for Summer 2026



IUB welcomed 1,631 new undergraduate students at its Summer 2026 orientation program on May 14. The event was organized by the Office of Admissions, Financial Aid, and International Relations. Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund and Registrar Asif Parvez spoke.

Tanfia Khan Disha, a final-year undergraduate student of Biochemistry & Biotechnology, shared her experiences about IUB. She was selected as one of 31 global fellows for the GCYLP 2025 program.

Deans, faculty members, members from the administration, and parents and guardians of the newly enrolled students were present at the ceremony. Merit scholars who secured top positions in the admission test were recognized at the event. •

Public Health department's seminar focuses on emergency response

The Department of Public Health organized a seminar titled "Saving Lives in Chaos: Public Health on the Frontlines of Emergencies" on April 1, 2026, to discuss the role of public health in emergency situations through a keynote session and interactive discussion.

SM Moazzem Hossain, former Principal Advisor and Chief of Health at UNICEF in Iraq and Afghanistan and former Deputy Director of the Global Polio Eradication Program at UNICEF Headquarters in New York, delivered the keynote session. He discussed public health strategies in emergency response based on his professional experience.

Prof. M. Tamim and Prof. Daniel W. Lund spoke during the session. Dr. Kamran ul Baset, Dean, School of Pharmacy and Public Health, and Dr. Zenat Zebin Hossain, Head, Department of Public Health, were present. Members of the IUB Board of Trustees, Mr. Javed Hosein and Mr. Rashed Chowdhury, also attended the seminar along with faculty members and students. The session included discussion between participants and the speaker on public health responses in emergency contexts. It examined approaches to managing public health challenges during emergencies and to support academic engagement in this area. •

Pharmacy department organizes training on UV spectroscopy



The Department of Pharmacy organized a training on UV-visible spectroscopy on April 2, 2026, focusing on knowledge and technical skills in analytical instrumentation and quantitative analysis using Beer-Lambert law. Faculty members and laboratory associates from the department participated in the session, which combined theoretical instruction and laboratory-based practical training covering instrument operation, sample preparation, and data analysis. The theoretical component covered the principles of UV-visible spectroscopy, light absorption, and instrumentation, including the light source, monochromator, cuvette, and detector, along with applications in pharmaceutical analysis. The practical component included calibration of the UV-visible spectrophotometer, preparation of standard and sample solutions, selection of wavelength (λmax), measurement of absorbance, construction of calibration curves, and determination of unknown concentrations using standard laboratory equipment and glassware. •

Public Health department observes World Health Day 2026



The Department of Public Health and the Public Health Club of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) observed World Health Day on April 13, 2026, through a series of events and engagements on campus. Under the theme "Together for Health: Stand with Science", the day's activities included an inter-university poster and video exhibition and a seminar, titled "Acute Malnutrition of Children in Bangladesh: A Public Health Problem Often Ignored". The seminar featured Dr. Tahmeed Ahmed, Executive Director, icddr,b, as the keynote speaker and Dr. Md. Khairul Islam, Regional Director, WaterAid South Asia, as special guest.

In his keynote, Dr. Ahmed stated that 8-11% children under five years of age in Bangladesh suffer from wasting and that severely malnourished children face significantly higher mortality risk. He identified food insecurity, inadequate feeding practices, infections, climate factors, and limited access to treatment as key drivers. He also presented a locally developed ready-to-use therapeutic food named "Sharnali" and stated that science-based and locally relevant solutions are required to address national health challenges. •

Follow-up meeting at IUB reviews progress in transdisciplinary research in public health and population

The School of Pharmacy and Public Health organized a follow-up meeting on "Transdisciplinary Research in Population and Public Health in Bangladesh" on May 6, 2026. The meeting reviewed discussions initiated during a seminar held in December 2025 and explored future directions for interdisciplinary collaboration in population and public health research. Keynote speakers at the follow-up meeting included Prof. Dr. Tanvir Turin Chowdhury, Assistant Dean, Department of Family Medicine, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, Canada; and Dr. Kamran Ul Baset, PhD, Dean, SPPH, IUB. They addressed the limitations of discipline-specific approaches in public health research and emphasized integration across disciplines, sectors, and communities. The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor of IUB, who outlined the institutional focus on collaborative research in population and public health. •

IUB celebrates Shakespeare and Ibsen's birthdays



The Department of English at IUB organised a program on April 13, 2026 to mark the birthdays of iconic playwrights William Shakespeare and Henrik Ibsen, highlighting their continued relevance in modern storytelling. The program was titled "Words and Worlds: Shakespeare, Ibsen and the Ballad of Titumir". Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman of DEML delivered the keynote address, examining two adaptations of Hamlet and A Doll's House in Indian Bangla cinema. His paper analyzed how filmmakers reinterpreted the original narratives for a 21st-century audience by incorporating contemporary sociocultural contexts.

The program also featured a recitation of The Ballad of Titumir by Rabiah Binthe Hossain, one of the co-authors of the epic poem, which was published as a book by IUB in 2025. The other co-author, Farhin Tasnim, is an alumna of the university.

Håkon Arald Gulbrandsen, the Norwegian Ambassador to Bangladesh, attended the event as the guest of honour. Among others who spoke were IUB Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim, Dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Prof. Dr. Bokhtiar Ahmed, and DEML Head Dr. Naureen Rahnuma. •

DESM seminar focuses on infertility and reproductive health equity

DESM organized a seminar titled "Infertility and Childlessness: Moving Beyond Biology Towards Global Health Equity" on May 4, 2026. Prof. Dr. Papreen Nahar, from Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK, delivered the keynote presentation. The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Head of DESM, and moderated by Mr. Ragib Mahmood Shuvo, Lecturer, DESM. The discussion segment included participation from faculty members and researchers, including Dr. Suraiya Akter Jemy, Ms. Ummay Habiba, and Ms. Shejuti Nure Maksurat, focusing on research gaps, healthcare access, and policy limitations in the national context.

Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, Dean of IUB's School of Environment and Life Sciences, delivered the concluding remarks, highlighting the relevance of interdisciplinary engagement in addressing reproductive health inequities. •

ICCCAD-DESM seminar discusses mitigation and low-carbon development

DESM and ICCCAD organized a seminar titled "Mitigation Pathways and Low-Carbon Development" on May 23, 2026. The seminar brought together academics, researchers, and practitioners to discuss climate mitigation, low-carbon development, policy, research, and implementation pathways. The keynote presentation was delivered by Prof. Dr. Ijaz Hossain, former Dean at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). He discussed carbon mitigation approaches, carbon trading mechanisms, international cooperation, and technology transfer in the context of sustainable development. In subsequent discussions, Dr. Hossain responded to queries related to policy direction and implementation challenges in low-carbon transitions. Prof. Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Head of DESM and Focal of ICCCAD, presented the ongoing and completed climate-related initiatives at IUB, with reference to research activities, capacity building, adaptation planning, and institutional roles in climate change response. He also outlined the engagement of academic programs with applied environmental and climate work. •

Psycho-Social Counseling Center's workshop focuses on mental health and wellbeing



The Psycho-Social Counseling Center and SPPH organized a workshop titled "Flourish: Thriving Through the Challenges of Student Life" on May 18, 2026. The program addressed anxiety, depression, stress, and academic, emotional, and personal challenges faced by students. It was hosted by Md. Yeasin, Counselor, Psycho-Social Counseling Center.

Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim discussed the different forms of anxiety experienced at various stages of life, including academic pressure, relationships, and future concerns faced by students. Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor, attended the program as Special Guest. Dr. Kamran ul Baset, PhD, Dean of SPPH, delivered the vote of thanks.

The main session was conducted by Dr. Mahjabeen Haque, Professor at University of Dhaka. Dr. Haque discussed students' mental wellbeing, effective coping strategies, and approaches to managing stress and anxiety in both academic and personal settings. •

Students of feature writing course visit heritage sites in Old Dhaka



The Department of Media and Communication of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized a student field visit to Old Dhaka on April 11, 2026, for the students of the course "CMN419: Feature Writing".

The trip provided practical exposure to historical feature writing through on-site observation and research. It was conducted under the supervision of course instructor Mushfeqa Islam, Lecturer in the Department of Media and Communication.

A group of 20 students explored Ahsan Manzil, Beauty Boarding, Shakhari Bazar, and Lal Kuthi to collect information on architectural heritage, social history, and cultural narratives for course assignments.

During the session, Ms. Islam guided students in applying feature writing methods in field conditions. Students engaged in observation, note-taking, and preliminary research during the visit.

The activity aimed to develop students' skills in research, observation, and feature writing through direct engagement with historical sites. The department plans to continue such field-based learning components within the curriculum. •

Students of Physical Sciences visit Bangladesh Oceanographic Research Institute in Cox's Bazar

A team of students and faculties from the Department of Physical Sciences went on study tour to the Bangladesh Oceanographic Research Institute (BORI) in Cox's Bazar on April 30–May 1. The IUB team included 30 students and several faculty and supervisors from the department. Sessions covered physical oceanography, space oceanography, climate change, marine pollution, coastal monitoring, and applications of mathematics and physics in marine research. Students were introduced to the use of mathematical modeling, computational methods, numerical analysis, and data processing in the study of ocean circulation, tidal patterns, sea-level change, and climate-related changes in the Bay of Bengal. The IUB delegation also visited the Oceanographic Data Center at BORI and learned about datasets and research resources related to coastal dynamics, marine environmental monitoring, remote sensing, climate studies, and numerical modeling. Discussions were held regarding possible collaboration between IUB and BORI in areas including student internships, research training, laboratory access, undergraduate research, and joint academic activities. •

Bangladesh Army delegation visits EEE department

A 10-member delegation from the Bangladesh Army, led by Brig Gen Kazi Mustafizur Rahman, visited the EEE Department on May 14. The visit focused on reviewing academic and research facilities and identifying areas for institutional and technical cooperation. The visitors met with the Head of the EEE Department, Prof. Dr. Mustafa Habib Chowdhury, and other senior faculty members, toured the laboratories and research facilities. They also reviewed ongoing work in robotics, Internet of Things, communication engineering, bio-sensing and bio-signal processing, artificial intelligence, electric vehicles, and renewable energy.

During an interaction session, faculty members and the visitors discussed possible collaboration in research and training activities. The discussion covered industry-academia engagement, interdisciplinary research, and applied use cases of emerging engineering technologies.

The delegation later attended the Final Year Design Project (FYDP) demonstration session, where graduating students presented capstone projects and prototypes. The projects included automation systems, renewable energy applications, IoT-based monitoring systems, communication systems, and AI-based engineering solutions. •

Media and Communication students participate in women media leaders training



Eight students from the Department of Media and Communication, along with a faculty representative, participated in a three-day training program titled "Women Media Leaders of Tomorrow (WMLT)" held from May 9 to May 11, 2026 at Gonokollan Trust, Bangladesh.

The program aimed to develop leadership capacity among women pursuing media studies through training on journalism practice, ethics, and professional readiness. It was organized by Fojo Media Institute in collaboration with Communication and Journalism Educators Network Bangladesh under the AGILE project supported by the European Union.

The program brought together 32 female students from the University of Dhaka, University of Rajshahi, University of Barishal, and Independent University, Bangladesh. The IUB participants were Mahfuza Anjum, Nafisa Subah, Saba Ali Hafiz, Hashmita, Tahiya Khandoker Prokrity, Namira Tabassum, Ambrin Islam Mahi, and Samia Reza Maisha. The group was accompanied by faculty representative Dilshad Hossain Dodul. •



DOS & DON'TS OF DENGUE

1



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

2



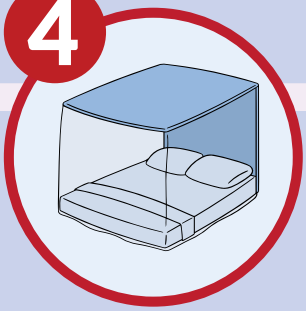
Use mosquito repellent aerosols during the daytime to prevent mosquito bites.

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

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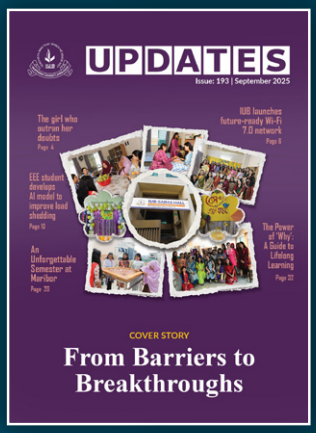



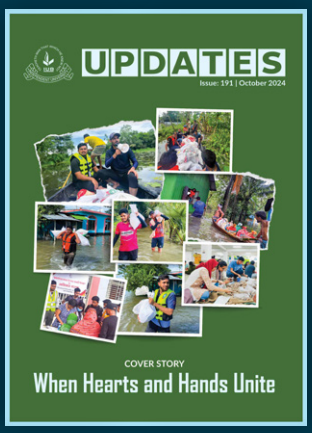





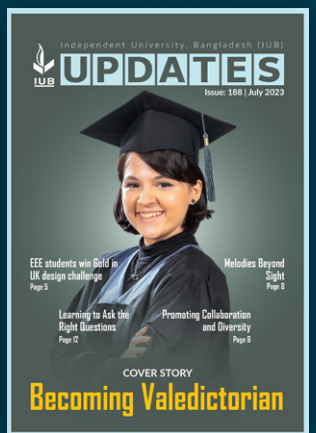



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