

# The Magical and Memorable Journey of BUGMUN'16

NASHIA ALI

BRAC University Global Model United Nations 2016 (BUGMUN), the grandest residential MUN experience being held at BRAC University's Savar Campus, took place on December 15-20, 2016, and was organized by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) and hosted by BRAC University (BRACU).

The inauguration ceremony took place on December 15, 2016, where BRACU's Vice Chancellor, Prof. Syed Saad Andaleeb, was the chief guest and Mohammad Mamdudur Rashid, AMD of BRAC Bank, Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury, Member, BOT, BRACU and Kelly Ryan, the Officer of Cultural Affairs, US Embassy Dhaka made appearances as special guests.

The first day began with the Opening Plenary at the Savar campus which started at 4 p.m. after all the Delegates and Executive Board Members were assigned their dorm rooms and their luggage taken care of. The night was reserved for the first social, "Networking Night", where the participants familiarised themselves with each other.

The second day was Victory Day, and everyone woke up to observe the day with the National Anthem; the second social of BUGMUN was Bangladeshi Night, which was titled "Bijoy Shayanno", to commemorate the day.

After evening tea of the third day full of sessions, delegates gathered in Markuli Hall, as a team from Finding Bangladesh and Project Kombol visited to enlighten the delegates about how to stoke the flames of passion and let one's civic sense of duty take wings, respectively. After the immensely inspiring teams demonstrated their work through some video clips, the delegates headed back to their dorms to freshen up for the third social of BUGMUN 2016, "Revolution Roulette" which was a night reserved for the performances of delegates, EB members, as well as organisers. Dinner was served during the show, and the night finally came to an end with amazing performances, as all the talents showcased were a sight to behold.



The next day began with more committee sessions commencing from 9 a.m. onwards. Nine press conferences were held till lunch. After lunch, delegates were asked to return to their dorms to get dressed for "Global Village" where bands such as Caffeine, Stentorian, MiNERVA, AvoidRafa and the Moors changed the atmosphere of the hectic sessions. Dinner was served, and the concert ended as Indalo lit up the stage as the concluding band, and left everyone energised and craving for more.

After the sessions on December 19, the Closing Plenary began at BRAC CDM. Delegates were led there by a group of organisers, and had evening snacks. Afterwards, they returned to their dorms to get dressed for the Closing Ceremony and Gala dinner and viewed the extravagant firework spectacle as the organisers and police, ensured that a safe distance was maintained and secured the perimeters. Everyone returned to BRAC CDM and the Closing Ceremony ensued.

The Chairs and Co-Chairs of the 14 committees appreciated and applauded the hard work of all the delegates by means of verbal mentions and proceeded to announce the Honourable Mentions, Special Mentions, Best Position Paper, Best Delegate and Outstanding Delegate award winners. It was a heart-warming sight to watch as delegates rose in standing ovation and applause and congratulated and embraced one another. After a grand dinner, DJ Fambrox team added a flamboyant twist to the night and the Masquerade Party commenced in full swing.

On the morning of December 20, delegates received their awards and certificates and finished packing their luggage, ready to board the buses for the ride back home, concluding an exceptional MUN experience. With 14 committees – the highest number of committees till date in a national level MUN – BUGMUN 2016 has been both a rigorous, yet entertaining journey so far.

# Driving with Your Parents

ZARIN RAYHANA

If your parents ever drove you crazy while you were driving car, you are not the only one. Your mom tenses up as if she saw Godzilla wreaking havoc throughout the city. Your dad starts lecturing you on driving while you're making a U-turn. I know it gets annoying, mates, but you have to chill out. To prevent your head from fuming like a pressure cooker, here's what you got to do.

**"I am immune"**

You have already heard this before but let me tell you again, you have to go ahead in life despite all those thorns being thrown at you. If they hurt you, it is the time to reconsider. Your parents will keep picking your faults and so will a lot of people. It doesn't always have to be taken negatively.

**"This is not a jet aircraft"**

Sadly, that's probably just a Toyota. Keep it within whatever speed limit your dad has determined for you. I know you may not have any pity for your unfortunate soul, but have some pity for them, will you?

**"What's that garbage playing?"**

It's the garbage that made it to Billboard Top 100. It's the garbage that gives us company during our heart-breaks. Unfortunately, the Selena Gomez effect will not work on your parents. Try playing some *Rabindra Sangeet* or 80's Hindi music, or something they like. They will praise you for having good taste in music.



**"In the back seat of your rover"**

Back seats are special, guys. Everything is scarier from the front seats, like in a rollercoaster. You may want to

convince them to sit at the back for this reason. Provide some good excuse. Or have your sibling sit next to you.

**"You are distracting me"**

Parents always worry about us and they don't want us getting into trouble. Hence if your Dad is correcting you on your driving skills, you should listen to him. If the situation gets out of hand, just politely tell them that they are making you unable to concentrate on the road. I'm sure they will understand.

**"Is that phone or poison?"**

Talking on the phone while maneuvering your car might get your irresponsible friends to compliment your multitasking skills, but that is not really cool. You know what's not cool either? The black clothing they wear at funerals.

**"Wrong Directioners"**

I know the feels. You listen to your parents' directions despite your reluctance and you end up at San Francisco. If you have a feeling that your parents are giving you wrong directions, resort to Google Maps. Pretty sure your eccentric *mama* has put up his house location there.

Now that you're chill, let me learn how to park my car otherwise you'll hate me if you ever run into me.

*Zarin Rayhana is a self-aggrandizing ambivert who ponders over philosophical epiphanies during rainy evenings and waits for her crush to jump straight out of her favorite novel. Treat her with novel suggestions at ericaavianazarin@gmail.com*