

SKILL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FUTURE

THE ROLE OF PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

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How Versatile Clubs are Making a Difference at Private Universities

We have something for everyone," says Dr Nurul Islam Babul, Advisor, CUB Media Club.

Indeed, the members are always on their toes, enthusiastically speaking of their various training programmes on video editing, filmmaking and photography, as well as exhibitions, workshops, field trips and competitions. This 200-member-strong club provides its members with a unique platform so that they can kickstart their career in television, radio, film or print media. This year, the club is hosting their very first Inter University Mobile Cam Photography Contest, as well as an informative seminar on Virtual Reality. "We take pride in our workshops on almost every aspect of media—from costume design to lighting, from script writing to animation. We have done it all. Some of the most brilliant minds in Bangladeshi media have come to teach our students the inner workings of the media ecosystem of the country," says a proud Dr Islam, and rightfully so. The students at the CUB Media Club are making their mark by learning from the best in the industry.

Communications Club, North South University (NSUCC)

A warm, cozy atmosphere is the first thing that greets one when they enter the NSUCC club room. Indeed, every single day is a celebration for the members of this club. Previously known as the English Club, the Communications Club still remains affiliated with the Department of English and Modern Languages (DEML) at North South University. This happens to be one of the only clubs to have regularly received support from the university for various competitions abroad, such as the Asian English Olympics, and won many accolades.

Sohana Hasan, Vice President, Logistics speaks of their many Member Development Programmes. "At the moment, we have two such MDPs running; one is the Vocal Project and the other is WordShop." The Vocal Project is a public speaking platform, while WordShop is a creative writing session. Ms Hasan speaks highly of veteran members who have helped conduct these events, as well as celebrated



Media Club, Canadian University of Bangladesh

sionally. "In today's competitive job market, our club helps students gain the necessary interpersonal skills. We regularly organise business case competitions, business idea competitions and workshops." He further says, "Our club activities are not just limited to BBA or Economics students, rather everyone from every department is welcome to take part. We have even arranged workshops for young college students, who were really excited to learn from us!" Among their workshops, some prominent names are Brand Yourself for soft skills development, Key to Career Success and Power of PowerPoint.

There are, however, some problems that the club members think should be addressed. One of them is the lack of a designated club room for the members, because of which they face problems in organising regular meetings. In spite of these hurdles, the club has organised many prominent startup idea and business case competitions, such as BizAces and Biz Fest.

Games and Sports Club, Southeast University



Business and Social Entrepreneurship Club, Eastern University



BRAC University Robotics Club

writers and poets who have graced these occasions. When it comes to problems, she talks about the lack of sponsors. "Since the club activities are mostly related to English, sponsors cannot fully trust that they would get the best return for their sponsorship." Other members also speak of challenges regarding getting permission for events and closing event budgets. In future, this promising club seeks more flexibility and cooperation from their institution with regard to these problems. NSUCC is popular for publishing English Matters, their very own magazine. "We here at NSUCC ensure that every student of NSU is groomed to be among the best writers, speakers and individuals of the country," says Ms Hasan.

Business and Social Entrepreneurship Club, Eastern University

There is more to education than just attending classes and completing assignments, at least, according to the members of this unique business club. The Business and Social Entrepreneurship Club at Eastern University focuses on developing soft skills in its members to prepare them for their careers. This club is 120-member strong, with a ten-member executive board. Established in June 2013, the Business and Social Entrepreneurship Club is one of the most prominent names within the campus as well as in the most happening business competitions in the country.

General Secretary Abirul Islam speaks highly of the hardworking club members and their enthusiasm to do better profes-

The student clubs of Southeast University ensure a connection of either academic or interest between the clubs and the members. They have gained international exposure and brought trophies home. The university's games and sports club very recently brought glory by becoming the champion of a Futsal tournament and earned praise because of their performance at the Faraz Gold Cup.

While the club runs on an undying motivation to take a step forward with every participation in different tournaments, fighting the constant challenges has also become an integral part. The biggest challenge is the lack of budget. The challenges don't discount the support however. Coaches are hired externally to train students and have never failed to show utmost dedication, while the team always reciprocated that. The expense of the coach is completely borne by the university, something the club is grateful for. Guided by the moderator and assistant moderators, both faculty members, the captain and vice-captain, both senior students, take the responsibility to inspire the teams to dream big. Mohammad Imtiaz, Director of Branding, Communication & PR says, "Members firmly believe that the country comes first." National team players have previously been invited to inspire and motivate students to do more for the country and her people. They're inspired to give back and believe that in today's world, certificates aren't enough.



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