EXPERIENCE

Enhancing learning experience with state-of-the-art campus

AMID HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY

Educational institutions play an essential role in our lives for our growth into responsible and independent individuals.

The education sector has come a long way from what it used to be years ago. Continuous technological advancements and developments have blended into the system. The heart of an institution lies with the people – the students, staff, and faculty. However, the physical premises and cutting-edge technology are important pieces for creating a state-of-the-art campus.

An ideal campus helps in building the foundation of a student's intellectual, conceptual, and emotional growth. The combination of technology-based learning environment and a comprehensive curriculum, skill-building workshops, and other educational programmes make learning more efficient. As a result, teachers and educators can effectively shape students as future assets of society.

In Bangladesh, many educational institutions are adopting groundbreaking technologies to develop a campus that provides better experiences for students and visitors. The country's premier transnational educational institute, Universal College Bangladesh (UCB), notably, is bringing affordable, world-class international education to the doorsteps of Bangladeshi students, along with an amazing campus.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF UCB

UCB is transforming the learning experience in the country with its wide range of unique facilities. The institute features 'counseling pods' which embrace the authentic culture of Bangladesh with sitting arrangements that resemble rickshaws.

Their flexible learning space not only supports varied learning styles, but also enables teachers and educators to interact. Keeping this in mind, UCB has a contemporary 'educator space' as well as a resource-enabled library, designed for collaborative learning. Campus learning spaces that foster collaboration encourage students to take more creative risks as a group and lean on their peers for support.

UCB has introduced several other cutting-edge technologies in their campus to create innovative learning areas with 86-inch touchscreens and laboratories with integrated testing areas. As an exclusive partner for Monash College in Bangladesh, UCB seeks to create an atmosphere where students can participate in the campus community and engage with their lessons long after classes end. Their campus has a vibrant rooftop café, enabling numerous co-curricular interactions.

Besides academics, a campus that embraces technology is essential for enhancing the learning experience of students. Studying in campuses that use technology and offer more than just bookish knowledge will help them flourish as individuals.

The author is Head of Marketing at UCB.

YOUNG ACHIEVER

Shayla Bithi conquers Island Peak of the Himalayas

LABIBA ANJUMI KABIR

PHOTO COURTESY: SHAYLA PARVIN BITHI

Bangladeshi mountaineer Shayla Parvin Bithi successfully conquered the Island Peak of the Himalayas, a 6,160-metre mountain in Nepal.

Born in Swarupkathi Pirojpur, Shayla has been visiting hill tracts since 2014. She visited Chandranath Hill with her friends, where she was introduced to Bangla Mountaineering and Trekking Club. Through this club, she went trekking up the Himalayas for the first time in 2015.

Her recent achievement was conquering the Island Peak of the Himalayas, which was also her first self-organised adventure. After three days of preparation, Shayla started her journey on October 28 of last year from Lukla, Nepal. After three hours of journey to Phakding, Shayla and her guide reached Namche Bazaar on second day. Her planned itinerary took a turn as she visited Thame and Lungden. After that, she started her extended trekking, including three challenging 5,000 m passes: Renjo La on November 2, Cho La on November 4 and Kongma La Pass on November 6. After these treks, Shayla reached Chukung, the last village before the Island Peak basecamp. On November 7, Shayla and another Indian team started their journey from Chukung to the basecamp.

She completed climbing the Island Peak on the evening of November 8; it took her 11 days to reach the peak. She trekked back to Luka on November 11.

"A part of my plan is to conquer an 8,000 meter mountain in 2022," asserted Shayla.

She also expressed her concerns regarding the trend of young people visiting mountains across the world. "I hope the younger and future mountaineers will take proper preparation and advice as well as equipment along with them, when they decide to go trekking, because faulty or unsuitable equipment do not just hinder the journey, but also create discomfort, which essentially ruins the fun of trekking," she says.

In celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the independence of Bangladesh, Shayla took a portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and another placard to promote her anti-rape campaign on her journey.

The author is a freelance journalist. Email: labibakabir99@gmail.com.