

NOTICE BOARD

BRAC University and BRAC Bank jointly launch Batch-5 of Uddokta 101

BRAC Bank and BRAC University launched the fifth batch of Uddokta 101 recently. This cohort received a total of 75 applications from women entrepreneurs. After a rigorous selection process, only 29 participants were selected for this cohort. The class contains entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds, with their businesses ranging from wedding invitation cards and handloom products to resorts and healthy food.

During the orientation, Dr Mohammad Mujibul Haque, Professor and Associate Dean (Acting Dean), BRAC Business School, and Khadija Mariam, Head of the Women Entrepreneur Cell, SME Banking Division, BRAC Bank Limited, welcomed the participants on their three-month journey ahead. The event was also attended by a distinguished pool of trainers, mentors, and faculty members of BRAC Business School.

Uddokta 101 is a flagship entrepreneurship development



programme tailored towards emerging women entrepreneurs. The programme helps women entrepreneurs stay ahead of the curve, uncover breakthrough opportunities, and spearhead successful enterprises.

In the three-month-long training session, the entrepreneurs will dive into intermediate-level topics such as leadership, business planning, digital marketing, record keeping, taxation,

HR management, supply chain management, and international trade.

One of the unique features of the programme is its special emphasis on the mental health of women entrepreneurs, offering them access to counselling services and dedicated classes on emotion management. The programme also boasts a mentorship service for entrepreneurs and a two-day trade fair at BRAC University.

Four-day-long training on “Impact of Environmental Pollutants on Brain Health” kicks off at NSU

North South University (NSU) organised a four-day-long training session for the early and mid-level researchers of Bangladesh to develop research capacity and become familiar with several tools and tests used to conduct neurocognitive developmental research.

This training session was a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded project. A total of 33 participants from 13 public and private institutions including, icddr,b, Shahajalal University of Science and Technology, and Rajshahi University attended the session. The trainers were from the USA, Canada, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), icddr,b, and NSU.

Among the investigators, Dr Hasan Mahmud Reza, Dean, School of Health and Life Sciences, NSU; Dr Khalid M Khan, Sam Houston State University, USA; Dr Joanne Rovet, SickKids, Canada; Dr Joseph Graziano, Columbia University, New York; Dr Khaliquzzaman, BSMMU; Dr Al Fazal Khan, icddr,b, and Dr Mohammad Delwer Hossain Hawlader, NSU conducted different sessions.

The training programme will include important sessions on how to write a research protocol for neurocognitive research, neurocognitive tests using instruments-computer-adapted batteries, etc. This type of training will help develop expertise in our scientists to initiate new generation neurocognitive and behavioural research that will bring more light to the understanding and management of metal-induced neurological disorders.

UCB Quiz winners receive grand prizes worth BDT 40 thousand

The country's first ever online quiz for high school and college-level students, organised by Universal College Bangladesh (UCB), has announced its champion. Muhammad Hasin Raihan from Dhaka College has triumphed at the “UCB Quiz” held for grade 10 – 12 students from all over Bangladesh.

Hasin and other winners were awarded certificates and received a combined prize worth BDT 40 thousand.

UCB organised a grand award ceremony on February 17 at the UCB campus in Gulshan to recognise the students' meritorious efforts. Prof. Hew Gill, President and Provost, UCB and Amit Prasad, Chief Operating Officer, UCB, handed over the prize and certificates to the winners. The first prize went to Muhammad Hasin Rahman from Dhaka College; the second prize went to Ahnaf Anis from Adamjee Cantonment College; the third prize went to Aribah Farzeen Shah from The Aga Khan School, Dhaka (AKSD); the fourth prize went to Zawad Islam from Playpen School, and the fifth prize went to Wazee Wahid Sazid from Adamjee Cantonment College.

The contest which took place earlier this month received a great response with students registering from more than 80 schools across the country. The winners secured their places after multiple competitive rounds of Q/A on a variety of fun and interesting topics.



Community Digital Storytelling Festival (CDSTF) ends at Daffodil International University

The Community Digital Storytelling Festival (CDSTF) held its first-ever two-day event on February 16 and 17 at the Daffodil Smart City. The festival concluded with the closing session featuring special screenings, guests, and parallel sessions.

Md Meherabul Haque, one of the CDSTF instructors, commenced the second day with an opening statement and a quote from A.P.J Abdul Kalam, encouraging all participants to push themselves every day. Thereafter, the remaining categories, such as the “Journalism Category”, “DIU Best Community Stories”, and the “One Minute Category” were screened.

During the event, Dean of FHSS, Prof. Dr Liza Sharmin, graced the occasion as a special guest and delivered a speech on the significance of digital storytelling. She complimented the participants for their efforts and contribution towards making the festival a success.

The second day ended with the Project Director of Bangladesh Film Archive, Dr Mofakkarul Iqbal, as the chief guest, who introduced a documentary on the role of foreign media in the Independence War back in 1971. Prof. Dr Golam Rahman, the Editor of Daily Ajker Patrika, and Advisor, Department of Journalism, Media and Communication, DIU delivered the vote of thanks.

On the first day of the festival, Anindo Banerjee, Head of Content, Chorki, graced the occasion as a special guest and expressed appreciation towards the



event stating, “There are hidden stories all around us that need to be spoken, and CDSTF is doing that, doing their social responsibilities properly.”

Dr Mofakkarul Iqbal, Project Director of the Bangladesh Film Archive, graced the event as the chief guest, presenting the prizes. Prof. Dr Golam Rahman, former Chief Information Commissioner and Advisor, Department of Journalism, Media, and Communication, DIU, also conducted a session.

Ayub Uddin Shihab won in the one-minute category, while Mohammad Sheikh took home the DIU Best Digital Story award. Additionally, Mithun Majumdar and Rabita Khandaker shine in the Journalism category.

Moreover, a special documentary titled “Gawe ka Padi” was shown on the first day of the event. The director of the film, Max Schleser, joined virtually to answer questions regarding the film. Selected films in the Independent Category were also screened on the same day.

