## An environment **DESIGNED FOR** LEARNING

## **PROF. DR ABDUR RAB**

Vice-Chancellor, International University of Business Agriculture and Technology

The International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) is one of the leading private universities in Bangladesh, maintaining a conscientious focus on social development across the country by providing higher education to those who cannot afford it otherwise. Eminent academician Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan founded IUBAT in 1991. The university focuses on social equity, justice, and gender equality while maintaining its high standards of education and research on a worldclass campus.

IUBAT emphasizes career planning from

the very first semester to prepare students to successfully pursue their future careers. The university is investing more in research and innovation to further improve global rankings, in addition to maintaining its close networks with potential employers and global universities.

The Fourth and Fifth Industrial Revolutions, the fast advancement of technology, global climate change and sustainability, and rapid socio-economic-political change are calling for new sets of knowledge and skills for graduates for employment. IUBAT is aware of this development, continuously monitoring the



changes, and incorporating the implications of the developments and changes by making necessary adjustments and improvements in the courses and curricula of their academic programs. IUBAT undertakes several measures for this purpose:Periodic but regular scanning of the local and international employment scenario; conducting periodic surveys of employers to understand the nature of knowledge and skills they need from employees; establishing close linkages with employers' representatives by making them members of the Industry Advisory Council in the respective academic programs for sharing their expertise in designing courses and curricula; inviting them to teach part-time, be guest speakers in courses, offer seminars on employment issues, and attend conferences and workshops; monitoring the higher education ecosystem to identify changes and improvements necessary to meet the needs of evolving and upcoming knowledge and skill sets development; encouraging students and faculty to pursue

lifelong learning to upgrade knowledge and reskill themselves.

IUBAT has recently upgraded the curricula of its programs, added new programs, trained teachers, and refreshed its education ecosystem. While preparing students for success in employment, the university emphasizes knowledge, skills, attitudes, and education quality appropriate for the job market. From the very first semester, IUBAT stresses education and career planning. The fullsemester internship program helps students gain practical job experience. The placement office assists students in securing jobs and internships, while the alumni association helps them create strong connections necessary for their career progression. IUBAT closely networks with potential employers and has signed a number of MOUs with corporate houses.

With the slogan "An environment designed for learning," the IUBAT community educates its students about the importance of nature and how to nurture it. We offer a mandatory grooming course that emphasizes leading a modern life without harming the environment.

The long-term vision is to produce at least one professional graduate from each village/ ward under the theme of 'Education for every qualified person, with finance for the meritorious but needy.'

The university is already pursuing a plan to further improve the quality of education through Outcome-based Education (OBE), recruiting the best teachers, admitting higher quality students, and creating more teachinglearning facilities. It continuously monitors progress in improving the quality of education and takes corrective actions.





## PROF. DR MD SHAH-E-ALAM

Vice Chancellor, Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology

Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology (SMUCT) is the first creative university in this region and widely recognized as the 'Creative Destination of the Nation'. Currently, the University operates with five different faculties, namely, the Faculty of Design and Technology, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Faculty of Business, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts, under which a total of 18 departments from various disciplines conduct academic activities smoothly with 32 programs. To ensure the required skills and knowledge

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of students, we implement well-designed curriculums and innovative teaching methodologies and approaches, integrating technological advancements and contemporary practices, primarily focusing on Fashion Design, Apparel Manufacturing, Graphic Design & Multimedia, Architecture, Interior Architecture, Computer Science, and Engineering, among others.

We guide students to explore and utilize their capabilities, strengthening their critical thinking, analytical, and leadership skills to



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enable them to envision their respective careers and face challenges in global settings. To establish joint collaborative initiatives, we have entered into numerous MoUs with corporate houses working in various sectors of Bangladesh. One of the major objectives of these initiatives is to provide industrial attachment for our future graduates by deploying our students as interns in their establishments.

The University has established a modern architecturally spectacular permanent campus with a Wi-Fi network, hi-tech and equipped classrooms, modern IT labs, and a Library Management System with an e-library, providing modern and updated IT and library facilities. Additionally, well-organized modern pattern galleries, exhibition galleries, ramp stages, sewing labs, CAD labs, design and animation studios, dance and music studios, architectural studios, and more are available for academic programs. Provisions are also made for students to display their works in our gallery, namely, "Creative the Art Gallery," as well as in international art galleries.

We appoint highly qualified and experienced teachers with adequate subject knowledge and previous reputable work experience. Presently, in addition to regular teachers, several senior reputed faculties from public and private

universities work here as adjunct faculty.

Moreover, we often arrange subject and practical-based seminars, training sessions, and symposiums for students. We provide opportunities for different employers to organize job airs on our campus to strengthen mutual interaction, explore students' knowledge and skills, and students are also sent outside the campus to attend such fairs.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) is characterized by new technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, and the Internet of Things, reshaping the world. It poses

significant development challenges as well as opportunities for Bangladesh. Additionally, the Government of Bangladesh has set the target of attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology is playing a proactive role in helping to implement the above goal by ensuring quality higher education with creativity.

The graduates of SMUCT apply their acquired knowledge, talent, and creativity with patriotism, integrity, and dedication to build a Smart Bangladesh.

