



Department of English and Humanities

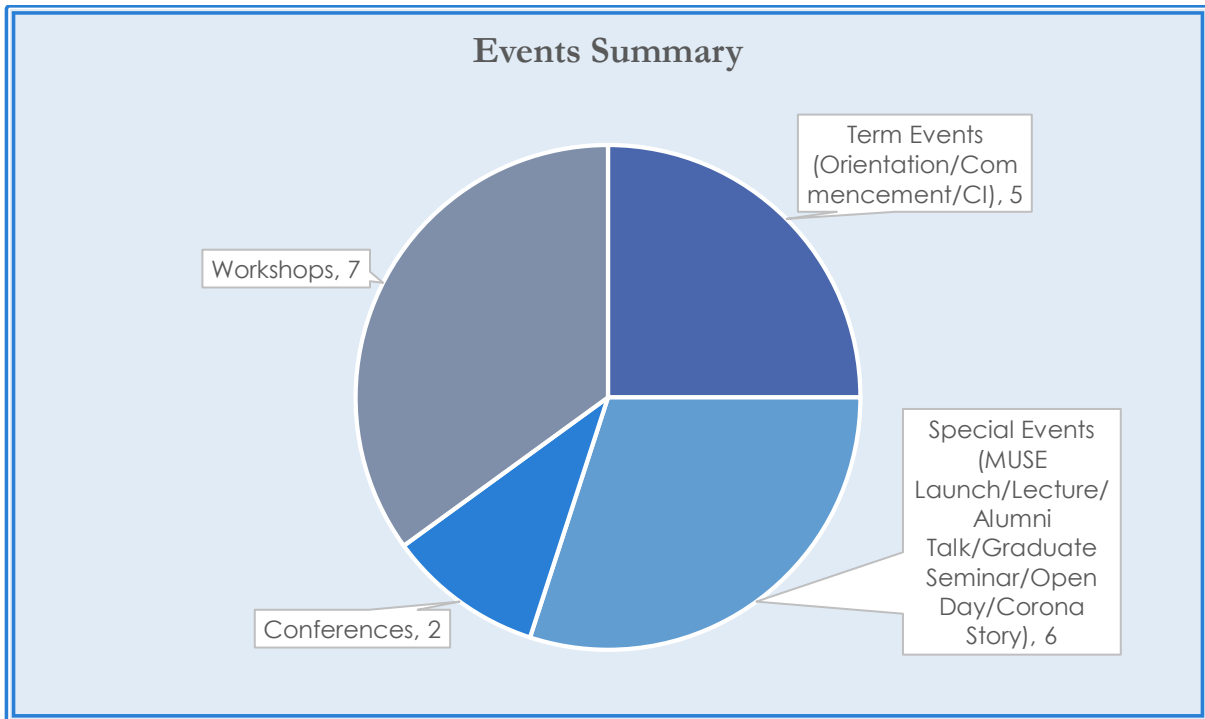
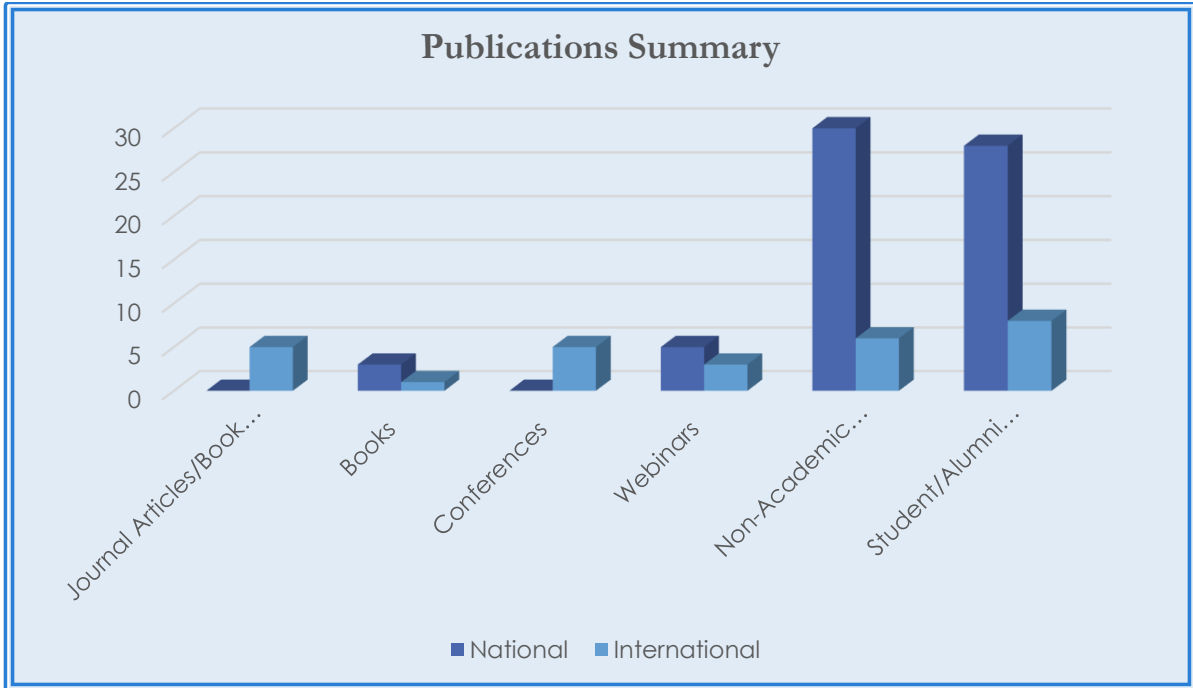
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

Publications and Events Report

Fall 2021

Table of Contents

Publications and Events Summary	2
Publications	3
Journal Articles/Book Chapters	3
Books	3
Conferences	3
Webinars	4
Non-Academic and Creative Publications	4
Student/Alumni Publications, Presentations, and Achievements	7
Events Report	9
Event 1: Orientation Fall 2021	10
Event 2: ULAB Afghan Colloquium 2021: Afghanistan in Critical Conversations	11
Event 3: Student Workshop: “Strategies for Research and Writing”	13
Event 4: DEH Organizes the First Forum of Curriculum Integration Program “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meet Practice”	14
Event 5: DEH Organizes the Second Forum of Curriculum Integration Program “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice”	15
Event 6: Research Adda at DEH	16
Event 7: Lecture Series on Applied Linguistics and TESOL: Inaugural Episode	17
Event 8: Student Workshop: “Writing Statements of Purpose”	18
Event 9: MUSE Launching Ceremony	18
Event 10: ALUMNI TALK: “Essay Grading Guidelines: A Flipped Approach to Help Students Write Stronger Essays”	19
Event 11: Student Workshop: Job Search and Networking	20
Event 12: ULAB Holds 7th Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition	21
Event 13: Student Workshop: Interview Skills	23
Event 14: Graduate Student Seminar Fall 2021	24
Event 15: Student Workshop: Speaking Skills	25
Event 16: Student Workshop: Applying for Higher Studies	25
Event 17: Curriculum Integration Program Showcase: “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice”	26
Event 18: Webinar: “A Corona Story” – Diasporic Experiences of the Pandemic	27
Event 19: Commencement Fall 2021	29
Event 20: DEH Open Day	30



Publications

Journal Articles/Book Chapters

International

- Haq, Kaiser. "Dhaka and Bangladesh." *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Urban Literary Studies*, edited by Jeremy Tambling. Springer, 4 December 2021. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-62592-8_186-1.
- Haq, Kaiser. "Bangla Round the World" *Indian Languages in the Diaspora, PLSI Volume Forty-Seven*, edited by G. N. Devy, T. Vijay Kumar (Volume Editor). Orient BlackSwan, 2021. ISBN 9789354421068.
- Haq, Kaiser. "With the Hamzapur Tigers." *Bangladesh: Writings on 1971, Across Borders*, edited by Rakhshanda Jalil and Debjani Sengupta, Orient BlackSwan, 2022. ISBN 9789354422126.
- Rahman, Mohammad Mosiur, Islam, M. S., Hasan, M. K., and Singh, M. K. M. "English Medium Instruction: Beliefs and Attitudes of University Lecturers in Bangladesh and Malaysia. *Issues in Educational Research*, vol. 31, no. 4, 2021, pp. 1213-1230. <http://www.iier.org.au/iier31/rahman2.pdf>.
- Rahman, Mohammad Mosiur and M. K. M. Singh. "English and Malay Language Policy and Planning in Malaysia. *Training, Language and Culture*, vol. 5, no. 4, 2021, pp. 36-46. doi: 10.22363/2521-442X-2021-5-4-36-46.

Books

- Rahman, Arifa Ghani, trans. *Inscriptions in Stone*. Kazi Shahid Ahmed's *Jiboner Shilalipi*. Kagoj Prakashan, 2021. ISBN: 978-984-95075-8-1.
- Manzoor, Sohana, editor. *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*. Dhauli Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.
- Mortuza, Shamsad, editor. *Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman: Voice of the Vortex*. National Implementation Committee for the Celebration of the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, December 2021. ISBN 978-98493853-8-7.
- Islam, Syed Manzoorul. *দেখা অদেখার গল্প, গল্প সংকলন*. Anyaprabash, 2022.

Conferences

International

- Islam, Syed Manzoorul. "Past Continuous: Afghanistan in Deshe Bideshe and Now." *From Kabulimala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination*. ULAB. October 30-31, 2021.

Osman, Khan Touseef. Panel Moderator. “Afghanistan Today: Heritage, Art and Women.” *From Kabulivala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination*. ULAB. October 30-31, 2021.

Atiya, Nishat. “‘The Garden of Hamza’s Father’ Now and Then: Afghanistan’s Quiet Resistance in A Fort of Nine Towers.” *From Kabulivala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination*. ULAB. October 30-31, 2021.

Islam, Syed Manzoorul. IInd Annual Buddhadeva Bose Lecture. The Center for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta. November 30, 2021.

Islam, Syed Manzoorul. “50 Years of Bangladesh Retrospect & Prospect.” Center for Policy Dialogue. December 8, 2021.

Webinars

International

Mortuza, Shamsad. Chair. Session at Celebrating 75 Years of Fulbright. Fulbright Bangladesh. October 27, 2021.

Sultana, Syeda Farzana. Fulbright Teachers Session (Secondary Education). Celebrating 75 Years of Fulbright. Fulbright Bangladesh. October 28, 2021.

Sultana, Shaila. “World Englishes & English Language Teaching in South Asia.” Applied Linguistics and TESOL: Inaugural Episode. ULAB. December 4, 2021.

National

Rahman, Arifa Ghani. “Learning Management Systems: What You Have Been Missing.” TESOL BD Educational Technology SIG. October 23, 2021.

Mortuza, Shamsad. “Tips and Tricks on Writing Story Plots.” TESOL BD Literature SIG. November 18, 2021.

Mortuza, Shamsad. “Employers Expectations from English Graduates.” Southeast University. December 2, 2021.

Rahman, Mohammad Mosiur. “Choosing a Viable Topic for Research and Selecting an Academic Journal for Publication.” Department of English and Humanities, ULAB. December 2, 2021

Manzoor, Sohana. “Star Book Talk: Anthologies in Conversation.” *The Daily Star Books*. December 22, 2021.

Non-Academic and Creative Publications

International

Haq, Kaiser. “The Emperor’s New Clothes.” *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*, edited by Sohana Manzoor. Dhali Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.

- Mortuza, Shamsad, trans. "Torso." *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*, edited by Sohana Manzoor. Dhauli Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.
- Rahman, Arifa Ghani, trans. "The Green Passport." (Shaheen Akhtar's "Shobuj Passport"). *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*, edited by Sohana Manzoor. Dhauli Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.
- Islam, Syed Manzoorul. "Alter Ego" Trans. Fakrul Alam. *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*, edited by Sohana Manzoor. Dhauli Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.
- Manzoor, Sohana, trans. "Petrea" *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*, edited by Sohana Manzoor. Dhauli Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.
- Atiya, Nishat, trans. "After Breaking News." *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction from Bangladesh*, edited by Sohana Manzoor. Dhauli Books, 2021. ISBN: 978-81-954560-4-8.

National

- Sarah Anjum Bari. "Taxi Wallah,' Numair Atif Chowdhury Takes Us, Once More, through the Cartography of a Homeland. *The Daily Star*, October 28, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/culture/books/reviews/news/numair-atif-chowdhury-takes-us-once-more-through-the-cartography-homeland-2208296>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Untranslatable Porosrikatorota." *The Daily Star*. October 30, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/the-untranslatable-porosrikatorota-2209476>.
- Manzoor, Sohana. "Motherhood and Sylvia Plath's *Three Women*." *The Daily Star*. October 30, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/star-literature/news/motherhood-and-sylvia-plaths-three-women-2209701>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "A Lemonade for the Illusion of Confidence." *The Daily Star*. November 6, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/lemonade-the-illusion-confidence-2223061>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Our Development and the Middle-Class Dilemma." *The Daily Star*. November 13, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/our-development-and-the-middle-class-dilemma-2228391>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Charpashe Bhalobasha Chchoriye Jini Benche Chchilen." Translated by Mashiur Rahaman. *Bdnews24.com*. November 14, 2021. <https://arts.bdnews24.com/archives/34915>.
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- Rahman, Arifa Ghani. "No Apologies Necessary." *The Daily Star*. November 20, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/views/opinion/news/no-apologies-necessary-2234016?fbclid=IwAR2Ixl7tUNeX9qcIHGVoRmXeCJC1vetxKTcQqIHFKJ3CU2yLEjYFJL6nVUk>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Protecting our Students from the Wrath of the Titans." *The Daily Star*. November 27, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/protecting-our-students-the-wrath-the-titans-2903636>.

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- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Prof. Rafiqul Islam: A Great Chronicler." *The Daily Star*. December 4, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/prof-rafiqul-islam-great-chronicler-2909216?fbclid=IwAR0EShGM7IZ5f73Vn0JcpgGSuGQn0PqfwJLhEt6GC8fwiow6nBzqRTL1C5s>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "From Disgrace to Grace." *The Daily Star*. December 11, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/disgrace-grace-2914501>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Trophies and Atrophies of the Covid-19 Pandemic." *The Daily Star*. December 18, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/the-trophies-and-atrophies-the-covid-19-pandemic-2919936>.
- Haq, Kaiser. "Hefty at Fifty: 'When the Mango Tree Blossomed' and other short stories from Bangladesh." *The Daily Star*. December 16, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/daily-star-books/news/hefty-fifty-when-the-mango-tree-blossomed-and-other-short-stories-bangladesh-2918851>.
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- Bari, Sarah Anjum. "Diversity and Nuance Mark the Bangladeshi Experience in Sohana Manzoor's *Our Many Longings: Contemporary Short Fiction From Bangladesh*." *The Daily Star Books*. December 23, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/culture/books/reviews/news/diversity-and-nuance-marks-the-bangladeshi-experience-2923616>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Lifting the Trophy of Bangladesh's Rise." *The Daily Star*. December 25, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/lifting-the-trophy-bangladeshs-rise-2924816>.
- Manzoor, Sohana. "Remembering Emily Brontë on her Death Anniversary: Romancing *Wuthering Heights*." *The Daily Star*. December 25, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/star-literature/news/romancing-wuthering-heights-2925141>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "When the Masks Come Off: Will 2022 be the Year when We are Finally Liberated?" *The Daily Star*. January 1, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/when-the-masks-come-off-2929766>.
- Rahman, Arifa Ghani. "Seeking Shaila." (Sumon Rahman's "Shaila'r Dike Jawa"). *When the Mango Tree Blossomed: Fifty Short Stories from Bangladesh*, edited by Niaz Zaman. Dhaka: Nymphaea Publication, 2021.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "When the Protector Becomes the Predator." *The Daily Star*. January 8, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/when-the-protector-becomes-the-predator-2934596>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "A Case for our Mental Privacy." *The Daily Star*. January 15, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/case-our-mental-privacy-2939206>.

- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Chaos in SUST Demands Change in the System." *The Daily Star*. January 22, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/the-chaos-sust-demand-change-the-system-2944341>.
- Bari, Sarah Anjum. "Illustrating Begum Rokeya's 'Sultana's Dream': Interview with Pakistani artist Shehzil Malik." *The Daily Star Books*. January 27, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/daily-star-books/news/pakistani-artist-shehzil-malik-illustrates-sultanas-dream-2948306>.
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- Bari, Sarah Anjum. "'Mother's Milk' by Tahmima Anam: Anatomy of a mother's pain." *The Daily Star Books*. February 3, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/daily-star-books/news/mothers-milk-tahmima-anam-anatomy-mothers-pain-2953341>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Want to Save our Nation's Future? Reopen Schools." *The Daily Star*. February 5, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/want-save-our-nations-future-reopen-schools-2954486>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Farewell VC, Welcome CEO." *The Daily Star*. February 19, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/farewell-vc-welcome-ceo-2965266>.
- Islam, Syed Manzoorul. "Seventy-One." *When the Mango Tree Blossomed: Fifty Short Stories from Bangladesh*, edited by Niaz Zaman. Dhaka: Nymphaea Publication, 2021.
- Manzoor, Sohana. "The Hawk with Gold-Tipped Wings." *When the Mango Tree Blossomed: Fifty Short Stories from Bangladesh*, edited by Niaz Zaman. Dhaka: Nymphaea Publication, 2021.

Student/Alumni Publications, Presentations, and Achievements

International

- Chowdhury, Amreeta Lethe. "In a City Like Ours." Longlisted for *20 under 30: The Best New Short Fiction from South Asia*. *The Bombay Review*, 2021.
- Arafin, Md. Shamshul. "The Representation of Taliban by the Islamic Speakers of Bangladesh." *From Kabulivala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination*. ULAB. October 30-31, 2021.
- Oysharja, Lutfun Naher Mahmud. "Atrocity on Afghan Hazaras Portrayed in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*." *From Kabulivala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination*. ULAB. October 30-31, 2021.
- Haque, Marjuque Ul. "Afghanistan in Bollywood Films." *From Kabulivala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination*. ULAB. October 30-31, 2021.
- Rupom, Md. Talebur Islam. "Influence of Public Diplomacy of Indonesian Foreign Ministry to Benefit Indonesia's Culture and Economy." *3rd Indonesianist World Congress, Indonesia. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia in collaboration with Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung, Indonesia*. December 1-2, 2021.
- Sarawat, Siham. *Sails of Bliss*. Orange Publishers, December 14, 2021.

Jabin, Nasrin, **Simran Wohra**, and Apon Das. "Education in India and the Postcolonial Perspective: An Analysis." *Contemporary India: Society, Economy and Polity*, edited by Nazmul Hussain Laskar. Authorspress, 2022, pp. 487-498.

Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury: Selected for The CPB Young Writing Fellowship 2021-2022 sponsored by *The Bombay Review*. She will receive INR 10,000 for a 2-month fellowship where she will undertake a significant writing project.

National

Banu, Jainab T. "Surrealist Poet Abdul Mannan Syed in M. Harunur Rashid's Translation." *Daily Sun*. November 11, 2021. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/587288/Surrealist-Poet-Abdul-Mannan-Syed-in-M.-Harunur-Rashid%E2%80%99s-Translation>.

Banu, Jainab T. "Stop Shaming Working Mothers." *Daily Sun*. November 12, 2021. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion//details/587459/Stop-Shaming-Working-Mothers>.

Mashiur Rahaman, trans. "Charpashe Bhalobasha Chchoriye Jini Benche Chchilen" by Shamsad Mortuza. *Bdnews24.com*. November 14, 2021. <https://arts.bdnews24.com/archives/34915>.

Banu, Jainab T. "Tribute to Hasan Azizul Haque: The Fallen Star." *Daily Sun*. November 18, 2021. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/588595/Tribute-to-Hasan-Azizul-Haque-the-Fallen-Star>.

Banu, Jainab T. "Shakespeare's Macbeth in Mohit Ul Alam's Edition." *Daily Sun*. November 25, 2021. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/589938/Shakespeare%E2%80%99s-Macbeth-in-Mohit-Ul-Alam%E2%80%99s-Edition>.

Banu, Jainab T. "Goddess Myth and Motherhood." *Daily Sun*. December 8, 2021. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/592494/Goddess-Myth-and-Motherhood>.

Budrudzaman, Mohammad. "Crab Farming: How to Do it Sustainably." *The Business Standard*. December 18, 2021.

Udita, Sumaiya Swati, trans. "The Professor" (Translation of "Addhyapak" by Rabindranath Tagore). *Litwrite Bangladesh*, 2021. <https://litwritebd.com/the-professor/>.

Afroj, Farzana. "Reconstructing the Identity of the Birangona as Hero." 7th DEH Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition, ULAB. December 29-30, 2021.

Rahaman, Md. Mashiur. "National Consciousness in the Age of New Media: Creating a Human-Machine Interface." 7th DEH Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition, ULAB. December 29-30, 2021.

Alam, Ahmed Mahbub-ul and **Noshin Nisa**. "Luxury of Captivity in William Butler Yeats' A Prayer for My Daughter and William Faulkner's A Rose for Emily." *Journal of ELT and Education*, vol. 4, no. 4, December 2021, pp. 89-92. <https://jee-bd.com/journal/joi-441621/>.

Nisa, Noshin and Ahmed Mahbub-ul-Alam. "What Women Should Want: A Study on Kate Chopin's Short Stories." *International Journal of Business, Social and Scientific Research*, vol. 9, no. 2, January-December 2021, pp. 68-71. <http://www.ijbssr.com/journal/detailsview/what-women-should-want-a-study-on-kate-chopin-s-short-stories-ijbssr07049>.

- Haque, Marjuque Ul. "Afghanistan in Bollywood Films." *Graduate Student Seminar Fall 2021*, ULAB. January 6, 2022.
- Saha, Abir. "Materials Development and the Empirical Value." *Graduate Student Seminar Fall 2021*, ULAB. January 6, 2022.
- Leona, Krishti Aung. "Building Contemporary Global Consciousness through Transitional Literature." *Graduate Student Seminar Fall 2021*, ULAB. January 6, 2022.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Unlearn and Relearn Gender." *Daily Sun*. January 12, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/599009/Unlearn-and-Relearn-Gender>.
- Mortuza, Arshi. "From One Minute Past Midnight: A Collection of Poems." *The Daily Star*. January 15, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/star-literature/news/one-minute-past-midnight-2939511>.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Omicron: Don't Try to Get Over with It." *Daily Sun*. January 15, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/599582/Omicron:-Don%E2%80%99t-Try-to-Get-Over-with-It>.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Altruistic Lie, not Deception, is a Social Condition." *Daily Sun*. January 22, 2022.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Stop Trolling Celebrities: They are Public Figures, Not Public Properties." *Daily Sun*. January 26, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/601666/Stop-Trolling-Celebrities>.
- Chowdhury, Amreeta Lethe, trans. "Dilemma," *The Daily Star*. January 29, 2022. <https://www.thedailystar.net/star-literature/news/dilemma-2949611>.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Postcolonial Analysis of Wole Soyinka's Poems." *Stamford Journal of English*, vol. 10, Summer 2020. February 2022 (Published)
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Re-reading the Myth of Medusa." *Daily Sun*. February 3, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/603212/Rereading-the-Myth-of-Medusa>.
- Rupom, Md. Talebur Islam. "Why Bangladeshi Players are not Picked in the IPL." *The Dhaka Tribune*. February 7, 2022. <https://www.dhakatribune.com/op-ed/2022/02/07/why-bangladeshi-players-are-not-picked-in-the-ipl>.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Here the Nightingale Flies into Eternity." *Daily Sun*. February 9, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/604399/Here-the-Nightingale-Flies-into-Eternity>.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Self-love is not Narcissism." *Daily Sun*. February 14, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/605251/Selflove-Is-Not-Narcissism>.
- Banu, Jainab. T. "Using Digital Tools to Preserve Our Dialects." *Daily Sun*. February 21, 2022. <https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/606487/Using-Digital-Tools-to-Preserve-Our-Dialects>.
- Kazi Tawfiq Tazim: First runner-up at the ULAB DifferenceMaker entrepreneurship competition 2021. Tawfiq will receive the sum of Tk. 50,000 seed money to fund his project "FRSHR" (pronounced "Fresher"). January 22, 2022.

Event Reports

Event 1: Orientation Fall 2021



‘In Fall, We Rise...’

The Department of English and Humanities held its Orientation Program on October 28, 2021 to welcome the incoming BA and MA students of Fall 2021. The event took place at the Permanent Campus (PC) of ULAB, and offered the Freshers, along with their parents who were present, to experience the lush greenery of the environment and the wonderful facilities.

The Chief Guest at the Orientation was M. Shahadat Hossain,

Executive Director, Dnet, and Founder and CEO, Astute Horse Marketing and Business Solutions, who demonstrated how English majors can achieve success by implementing their literary knowledge and creativity in their preferred career paths. He described a range of career opportunities that English majors can avail by dint of the training they receive as students.



The Head of the Department and Associate Professor, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, welcomed the Freshers and introduced them to the faculty members of DEH. Subsequently, pieces of advice and good wishes were conveyed to the budding scholars by Professor Kaiser Haq and Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam.

The Acting Vice Chancellor of ULAB, Professor Shamsad Mortuza delivered his speech to encourage the students to broaden their horizons and welcomed them to the DEH family. The Head of the Department then delivered her vote of thanks.



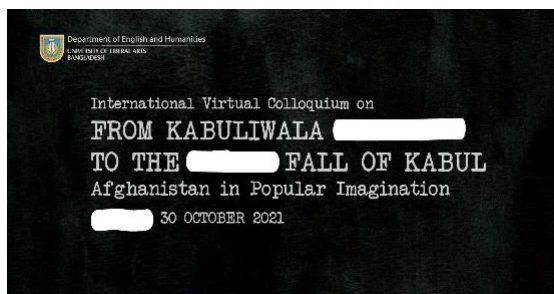


The cultural segment started with an opening song by Tasfiyah Saba, followed by a beautiful poetry recitation MA student, Risalat Rahman Hridoy. Rhyma Rahman Heya performed a dance and then two alumni of DEH, Mostafijur Rahman Shuvo and Afrena Siddique, shared their experiences as former students of ULAB. They offered valuable pieces of advice to the Freshers. Finally, the cultural program ended with the melodious voices of Tahosin Tasnim Hoque and Mustafa Zahir Sheikh, accompanied by guitarist Marzuk Ahmed Khan Majlish. Paper Canoe: ULAB Literary Society took care of decorating the stage and managing the cultural performances.

At the end of the program, Freshers and their guardians were divided into small groups and given a tour of the green Permanent Campus of ULAB by the volunteers. The tour arrangement and management of the event was handled by the TAs of the Department, Shahriyer Hossain Shetu and Vincent Dip Gomes, along with the help of the hardworking students who volunteered at the event: Benozir, Razin, Mubashshira, Tasmim, Sanzida, Masayal, Afrida, Mahjabeen, Muntakim, and Shihab.



Event 2: ULAB Afghan Colloquium 2021: Afghanistan in Critical Conversations



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized an international virtual colloquium on "From Kabuliwala to the Fall of Kabul: Afghanistan in Popular Imagination" on October 30-31, 2021. The first of its kind in the new reality of a fallen Kabul, the academic event was applauded for its timeliness and a nuanced understanding of a political phenomenon with a tremendous popular appeal. The event hosted

participants from all over the world—those who responded to the concept note circulated just a month before the event. It was the urgency of the political situation that made the event come into being in the first place, and the participation of delegates from around the world evidenced the need for critical conversations on Afghanistan and its place in popular imagination. In addition, the colloquium also hosted an inter-university creative contest for university students on the theme of “Flight from Kabul” to critically engage them in this discourse. Drawing from creative and critical domains, the event has truly demonstrated what it has put forth as its theme: “critical empathy.”

In the inaugural ceremony, which was graced by Professor Imran Rahman, the then Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees and Professor Shamsad Mortuza, the then Vice Chancellor (Acting), ULAB, hosted three Afghan young women, Samira, Khadija and Mina, from a refugee camp in Wisconsin, USA. “Afghan Letters to the World,” as the segment was named, brought in three Afghan girls writing to the international community about their traumas and tribulations, their dreams and expectations, fears, anxieties, and emotions. Listening to their tragic stories, the audience realized in a way rarely witnessed in academic events the need for responsible dialogues on the popular imagination of Afghanistan. The keynote address by Professor Himadri Lahiri of Netaji Subhas Open University entitled “Images of Afghanistan: Through the Cultural Lens” was a contextualized and nuanced exposition of the image of Afghanistan in popular cultural practices of the world and their major discursive tendencies. Professor Lahiri set the tone for the conversations taking place over two days of academic sessions and anticipated the defining character of the event, its accommodation of narratives in critical dialogues.

The two plenary addresses by Professor Claire Chambers (“Some Thoughts on Afghanistan”) and Professor Lily Want (“Writing the Self in Afghanistan: Foregrounding Western and Islamic Feministic Perspectives”) offered fresh perspectives on Afghan literary cultures, social practices, and broader theoretical views, especially those related to gender, broadening the range of issues generally associated with the theme of the colloquium. A roundtable and a panel discussion explored topics of contemporary relevance: “Contested Histories, Continuous Memories: Your History Gets in the Way of My Memory,” and “Afghanistan Today: Heritage, Arts and Women.” In the roundtable, moderated by Professor Sabiha Huq, the discussants, Professor Niaz Zaman and Professor Himadri Lahiri, asserted the existence of inconsistent historical narratives in South Asia and explored the theme of the colloquium critically. In the panel discussion, moderated by Dr. Khan Touseef Osman, Representative of South Asia Foundation to UNESCO, France Marquet, renowned artist Kubra Khademi, and human rights activist Khushi Kabir represented South Asia Foundation in the colloquium. Discussions ranged from heritage preservation in Afghanistan, the future of arts and artists to women’s rights.

Celebrating the great Bengali author Syed Mujtaba Ali and his works set in Afghanistan — autobiographical and otherwise, renowned author and intellectual Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam was in conversation with Dr. Sohana Manzoor in the session titled “Past Continuous: Afghanistan in Deshe Bideshe and Now.” Professor Islam contextualized Ali’s works in the political history of Afghanistan and commented on what appeal these works may have for us in the present. Professor Azfar Hussain recited Afghan women’s poetry in the session “‘Load Poems Like Guns?’: Afghan Women’s Poetry against Bullets, Bayonets, and Bombs” where he also provided a critical commentary on how Afghan women raise their voices against different forms of oppression—by the Taliban as well as US imperialists—through poetry.

Entries in the Creative Contest were shortlisted and blindly judged by Dr. Fahmida Akhter and Dr. Sohana Manzoor. Professor Razia Sultana Khan graced the special showcasing of the shortlisted entries as the Special Guest. University students from all over Bangladesh had submitted a total of 92

pieces of creative writing (short story, poetry), artwork, and performances. The winners of the contest were Sheikh Muhammad Mustafa of ULAB (First Prize), Abidul Islam Omit of Jagannath University (Second Prize), and Alif Al Rahman of Eastern University (Third Prize). The Special Guests and judges commented on the variety of subjects and media used by the young and talented Bangladeshi students.

The Colloquium concluded with the closing ceremony graced by Professor Imran Rahman, the then Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees. A vote of thanks was delivered by the Convener of the colloquium to mark the close of the proceedings.

The videos of the different sessions can be viewed [here](#).

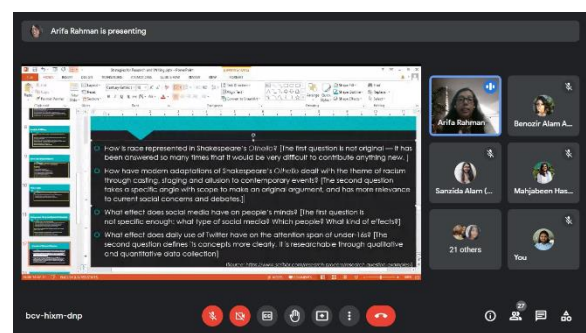
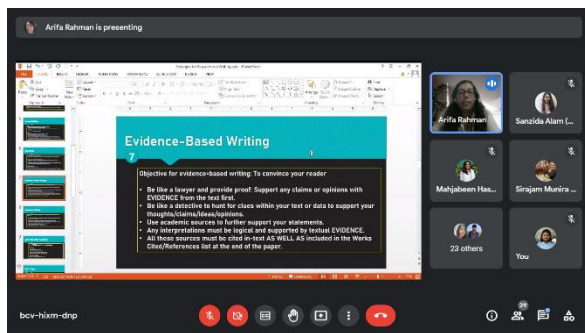
Event 3: Student Workshop: “Strategies for Research and Writing”



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized a two-part workshop titled “Strategies for Research and Writing.” The first part, focusing on Academic Writing, was held during the Summer 2021 semester, and the second part, focusing on Research, was held on November 20, 2021. Both the sessions were conducted by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of DEH, The aim of the workshop was to acquaint the students of ULAB with the standard methods and

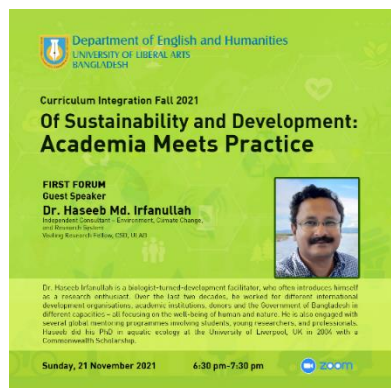
strategies of approaching, conducting and presenting research papers, proposals, and reports in an organized manner.

Part II of the workshop reiterated the ideas presented in Part I which included the dos and don'ts of formal writing. Part II focused on developing a research topic and research questions, conducting a background study, literature review, and using primary and secondary sources. As the capacity to conduct research is required for students of every discipline, the workshop generated interest amongst students from different departments at ULAB such as DEH, BBA, and MSJ. Students actively participated in the workshop and strengthened their conceptions regarding different elements of research.



Report by Vincent Dip Gomes (182013034)

Event 4: DEH Organizes the First Forum of Curriculum Integration Program “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meet Practice”



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized the first forum of the Fall 2021 Curriculum Integration Program on the theme “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice” on November 21, 2021. The guest speaker of the forum was Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah, Independent Consultant - Environment and Climate Change and Research System and Visiting Research Fellow, CSD, ULAB. The focus of the forum was to engage the students of DEH with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to explore the different aspects of their studies in literature, language, and linguistics, and address issues such as inequality, quality

education, and sustainable community. The main goal of this forum was to aid the students’ project representations that will be showcased at the end of the semester.

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah began the forum by initiating different definitions of sustainability addressed by the students of DEH. Then, he explained the importance of Sustainable Development, which is “to ensure transgenerational equity and justice as we progress and facilitate human and environmental well-being.” He also pointed out the United Nations SDGs Framework, the Aspects of SDG, the connection of ‘English’ with SDGs, the disciplines of SDGs, and the importance of SDGs on global and national levels. The most interesting part of the forum was the linking of ‘English’ with the Sustainable Development Goals as it helped students and faculty members visualize the connections between the SDGs and their respective courses. Dr. Haseeb used a few DEH courses, such as Restoration and 18th Century Literature, Modernism: Early 20th Century English Literature, Morphology and Syntax, and Postcolonial Theories and Literature, to make the connections clearer, more logical, and distinctive for the students which will greatly aid them in making their presentations.



Dr. Irfanullah concluded the forum with an open discussion for the students. He raised four questions for students as food for thought: First, our vision and actions to take as individuals and as global leaders; second, how the knowledge of the past can lead to the future; third, how we see the interactions among disciplines; and fourth, our thoughts on innovation in our approach as we lead a sustainable life. The forum ended with a question-answer session. The students of DEH participated actively in the entire forum.

The emcee of the forum was Tasfiyah Saba, a student of DEH.

Watch the forum at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lvf8aUuFSsU>.

Report by Shabriyer Hossain Shetu (182013004)

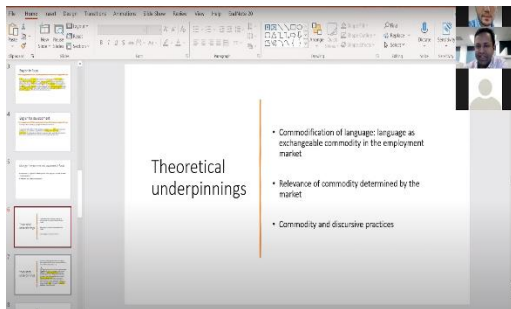
Event 5: DEH Organizes the Second Forum of Curriculum Integration Program “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice”



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized the Second Forum of the Fall 2021 Curriculum Integration Program on the theme “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice” on November 25, 2021. The guest speakers of the forum were Mr. Md. Maksud Ali, PhD Candidate, School of Education, University of Queensland, Australia, and Ms. Munasir Kamal, PhD Candidate, University of Leeds, UK and Assistant Professor (on leave), Dept. of English, University of Dhaka. Like the first forum of the Fall 2021 CI, conducted by Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah, the second forum also focused on Sustainable Development and its 17 goals intermingling with literature and linguistics. The goal was to enlighten the students and faculty members of DEH with SDGs so that they can present multiple projects relating to their respective course(s), which will be showcased at the

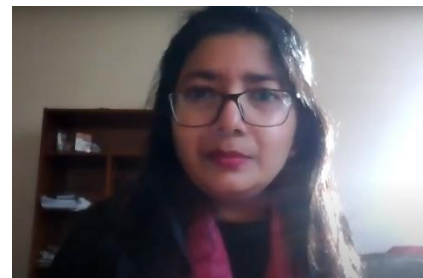
end of the semester.

The event formally started with a welcome speech by Prof. Shamsad Mortuza, Pro Vice-Chancellor, ULAB, and Dean of School of Arts and Humanities. Later, it was followed by the first guest speaker, Mr. Md. Maksud Ali. Mr. Ali spoke on "English and Development: Theoretical Perspectives, Policy Discourses, and Politics," outlining the major understanding of the word “development” aligning with language and English with reference to the United Nations’ millennium goals.



Mr. Ali also raised a few theoretical perspectives and policy discourses drawn from English in Action projects implemented in the Bangladeshi context. In addition, he also highlighted some of the political issues embedded within the discourses. He concluded his talk with some solutions that interrogate the hegemony of English development in development discourses in ELT, pointing out the dominant perspectives, and introducing the critical pedagogy in teacher education.

The second guest speaker, Ms. Munasir Kamal, focused more on students’ perspectives towards Sustainable Development Goals, and how they plan to implement them in their current and future practices. She spoke on the “Goals of Studying English and the Sustainable Development Goals." In order to understand the goals of students, she initiated breakout rooms so that each student can share their future goals, and their reasoning to join the English department. The talk concluded with the song, “Kotoi Rongo Dekhi Duniyai” from HIRAK RAJAR DESHE, which relates to the Sustainable Development Goals.



The forum was hosted by Taznuba Afreen, a DEH Scholars Program student, and concluded by Ms. Tasmia Mayen, Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities and the coordinator of the Fall 2021 Curriculum Integration Program.

Watch the forum at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKX8kuFLfXM>.

Report by Shabriyer Hossain Sbetu (182013004)

Event 6: Research Adda at DEH

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a “Research Adda: Choosing a Viable Topic for Research and Selecting an Academic Journal for Publication” on December 2, 2021.

Facilitated by Mohammad Mosiur Rahman, Senior Lecturer at DEH, the Adda was attended by 80+ participants, who are either doing their thesis or in their penultimate semester at University. Faculty members from different disciplines also participated in the Adda.

The objective of this Adda was to enlighten participants, especially young researchers, about the factors required for choosing a certain research topic starting with its usefulness, how much information is available, if these information can be extracted, how affordable is the chosen research methodology going to be for the researcher, and so on. Mohammad Mosiur Rahman kicked off the program with his detailed discussion of the different factors that researchers need to be aware of while providing a rich array of supporting materials. Thereafter, the discussion became more interactive with faculty members and students pitching in their opinions, experiences, etc.

Report by Sabedul Islam Hira (181013054)

Event 7: Lecture Series on Applied Linguistics and TESOL: Inaugural Episode

The inaugural episode of the DEH Lecture Series on Applied Linguistics and TESOL, organized by the Department of English and Humanities, ULAB, was held on December 4, 2021. The speakers at the inaugural episode were Professor Shaista Sultana, PhD, Department of English Language, IML, University of Dhaka, and former Advisor to CLS, ULAB, and Professor Muhammed Shahriar Haque, PhD, Professor, Department of English and Executive Director, EWU Center for Research and Training, East West University.

The objective of this lecture series is to disseminate knowledge and encourage participants, particularly young

researchers and practitioners of Applied Linguistics and TESOL, to broaden their ideas and update their knowledge of teaching methods that can be used in the classroom to make learning of language more fun and interactive.

The first speaker, Dr. Shaila Sultana introduced her topic, “World Englishes & English Language Teaching in South Asia,” which provided a historical context of the use of English language, its development, research approaches, and English Language Teaching in relation to World Englishes in South Asia in light of some previous research findings. Dr. Sultana also shared some critical personal views on the topic that led to some interesting discussions.

The next presentation, “Relevance of Critical Discourse Analysis in the 21st Century,” was conducted by Professor Muhammed Shahriar Haque, PhD, which was equally enlightening and thought-provoking, focusing on the importance of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) in the context of Bangladesh’s education system.

The program concluded with closing remarks from the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shamsad Mortuza.

There were registered participants from Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Narshingdi, Saidpur, Cumilla, Sylhet, Jamalpur, Noakhali, Pabna, and so on, all from different schools, colleges, and universities. Globally, there were registered participants from the UK, US, India (Kerala, Sindh, Kashmir, Gujrat, West Bengal, Hyderabad), Indonesia, Pakistan, Malaysia, Philippines.

Finally, in addition to the expected crowd from English/Language departments, there were participants from departments of Math, Business and Malayalam as well.

The lecture series has been planned by Mohammad Mosiur Rahman, Senior Lecturer at DEH.

Watch the inaugural episode here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0I4luVu8p8>.

Report by Nisbat Tabassum (183013044)

Event 8: Student Workshop: “Writing Statements of Purpose”

The poster is for a workshop titled "Writing Statements of Purpose" organized by the Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. It features a circular portrait of Dr. Sohana Manzoor, an Associate Professor in the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB. The workshop is scheduled for Monday, December 13, 2021, at 6:30 PM. The poster also includes a QR code for the Zoom meeting and a small "Meet" logo. At the bottom, there is a brief bio of Dr. Manzoor, mentioning her PhD from Southern Cross University, Queensland, and her expertise in nineteenth-century British fiction. She is also noted as a creative writer and translator, currently serving as the Literary Editor of *The Daily Star*, Bangladesh.

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized a workshop titled “Writing Statements of Purpose” on December 13, 2021. The session was conducted by Dr. Sohana Manzoor, Associate Professor, DEH, with the aim of making students aware of the standard methods and strategies for writing professional and stand-out Statements of Purpose (SOP) when applying for higher studies.

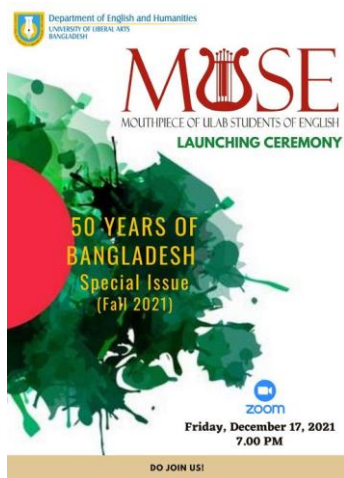
The workshop commenced with the facilitator outlining the required documents for applying to foreign universities for graduate studies. Then the organization of an SOP was discussed. The workshop emphasized on how to demonstrate applicants’ aspirations, relevant research and work experience, and the field of interest for future studies in a positive and precise manner so that they come across as genuine candidates.

During the second half of the session, a few samples of well-written SOPs were shown and discussed with the participants to give a comprehensive overview of the points discussed. As writing a professional SOP is of utmost importance while applying for higher studies at international universities, the workshop generated interest amongst students, especially those who are in their final year of studies. Students from DEH, BBA, MSJ, and CSE attended the workshop, which was further enlivened by their creative questions and insights during the question-answer session.



Report by Vincent Dip Gomes (182013034)

Event 9: MUSE Launching Ceremony



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized the launching ceremony of the 50 Years of Bangladesh special issue of MUSE, the Mouthpiece of ULAB Students of English, the student e-magazine of the Department, on December 17, 2021 in celebration of the Victory Day of Bangladesh. The event took place online with the Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB and Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, the Head of the Department, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, current students of BA and MA, and the faculty members of DEH in attendance.

Currently in an e-version, MUSE has been a publication platform for the students of DEH since 2014. Under the editorial guidance of the Head of the Department and the Faculty Advisor, an Editorial Board, comprised of six students who work as sub-editors, plan, write, make selections of submissions, edit, and publish the magazine. The special issue had DEH Lecturers, Ms. Qazi Mustabeen Noor and Ms. Nishat Atiya, at the helm. The sub-editors were Anika Labiba Ahmed, Shahriyer Hossain Shetu, Fairuz Maliha Surma, Md. Sahedul Islam Hira, Quazi Farhina Hassan, and Umme Hani Anika.

The program commenced with the opening remarks and heartfelt regards to the successful launching ceremony by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of DEH. The Pro-Vice Chancellor, ULAB, and Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, officially declared the inauguration of the special edition of MUSE, Fall 2021. As the first Editor of MUSE, he reminisced about the past issues and congratulated the entire editorial board for successfully launching the e-magazine.

A cultural segment was put together to celebrate the Victory Day and the success of MUSE. Students of DEH from different batches were involved in this segment. Marzuk Ahmed Khan Mojlish (183) kicked off this segment with a fitting instrumental rendition of the Bangladeshi national anthem. This

was followed by poetry recitations in Bangla and English by Humaira Mehnaz Audity (193) and Lamia Jashim Uddin (183). From Batch 201, Tasfiyah Saba sang the song, *Muktiro mondiro shopano tole*, as her tribute to the heroes of '71. Shushmita Roy Ushno from Batch 181 performed a beautiful dance to the song *Dhono Dhanno Pushpe Bhora* which was followed by a rocking performance of "Rokto diye naam likhechi" by Alen Henry Costa (211). Anika Labiba Ahmed (173), a student of DEH and a self-taught artist, was interviewed by the MUSE team. She described how, during the pandemic, she taught herself to paint and produced some brilliant works of art which were showcased during the launching ceremony. Former MUSE sub-editors, Radia-al-Rashid and Sofia Zafrin, shared their wonderful memories as MUSE alumni.

The highlight of the launching ceremony of MUSE was the segment that paid tribute to the 50 years of Bangladesh with love letters written and voiced by MUSE sub-editors. Abrar Farhan Zaman (191) was an integral part of the writing and editing process of the video. A short video also showcased the best submissions of MUSE as a token of appreciation to all its contributors.

The cultural segment concluded with a cover of the famous George Harrison number, "Bangladesh"-performed by Marzuk and Zahir.

The MUSE team gave their sincere thanks to all its contributors for giving Bangladesh hope about the future of creative writing.

At the end of the program, Ms. Nishat Atiya Shoilee, DEH Lecturer and MUSE Advisor, delivered the vote of thanks with heartfelt remarks about the team and to all who supported them in successfully launching this special issue of MUSE. The event was hosted by Shahriyer Hossain Shetu, Teaching Assistant of DEH and Sub-editor at MUSE.

The video segments and full program can be viewed at the [DEH YouTube channel](#).

Report by Shahriyer Hossain Shetu (182013004), Teaching Assistant, DEH

Event 10: ALUMNI TALK: "Essay Grading Guidelines: A Flipped Approach to Help Students Write Stronger Essays"

Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

Sunday | December 19, 2021
7:00 PM

DEH ALUMNI TALK
ESSAY GRADING GUIDELINES: A FLIPPED APPROACH TO HELP STUDENTS WRITE STRONGER ESSAYS

Essays are probably an unavoidable part of tertiary education, especially for those studying subjects of English or Arts and Humanities. Essay writing can be challenging as it requires both creativity and logical planning. I feel it is helpful for students to learn a teacher's grading criteria. Therefore, the aim of my talk is to communicate the dos and don'ts of essay writing. Instead of talking about basic essay types or structures, I will delve into the characteristics of a student paper from each letter grade (A+ to D). My hope is that my guidelines will help students improve the quality of their essays.

BIO

Shamael Mortuza
DEH Alumna, Batch 193

Supported by:
ULAB
English Zone

Shamael Mortuza recently graduated with an MA in English Literature from Queen's University. She earned her BA in English and MA in English Literature and Cultural Studies from University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB). Ms. Mortuza worked as a Teaching Assistant during her time at Queens. Furthermore, she was valedictorian, gold medalist and summa cum laude awardee for both her BA and MA results at ULAB's 6th Convocation. She currently resides in Toronto, Ontario.

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a talk on December 19, 2021, with Shamael Mortuza, a highly accomplished alumna of the department. The talk, "Essay Grading Guidelines: A Flipped Approach to Help Students Write Stronger Essays," focused on providing guidance to students to improve the quality of their academic writing.

Shamael Mortuza recently graduated with an MA in English Literature from Queen's University, Canada. She earned her BA in English and MA in English Literature and Cultural Studies from University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB). Ms. Mortuza worked as a Teaching Assistant during her time at Queens. Instead of discussing dos and don'ts of academic essay writing during her talk, she took an interesting approach by sharing her grading criteria with the students. She discussed elaborately what teachers look for when reading student papers. Next, she delved into the characteristics of a student paper from each letter grade, A to D. Ms. Mortuza, in this interactive session, emphasized the importance of the thesis statement and recommended that it

be controversial. In her words, “it needs to be something interesting and something that invokes curiosity...and it also needs to be something that is original.”

In this talk, she also discussed her responsibilities as a teaching assistant at Queens, and how she managed her time as a student as well. During the Q/A session, Ms. Mortuza answered several questions regarding organization of academic papers, proofreading, stress management, and more. The Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, and Head of the Department of English and Humanities, Associate Professor Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman also shared valuable academic writing tips and practices. The event was coordinated by the ULAB English Zone Supervisor K. Rubaiyat Tasmia and hosted by Razin Saleh Alam, a student of the department. The program ended with a vote of thanks by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of Department.

Event 11: Student Workshop: Job Search and Networking



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized a workshop on “Job Search and Networking” on December 23, 2021. This is part of a series of workshops designed especially for the department students to aid them in their pursuit of a career or higher studies. The speaker of this workshop was the Head of the Department of English and Humanities and Associate Professor, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman.

The workshop aimed to prepare the students of DEH of ULAB for the job field and to acquaint them with the necessary skills required to tackle the challenges in the job industry. Ms. Rahman entered the workshop five minutes late on purpose to provide a lesson on the importance of punctuality. In any professional relationship, there is a mutual agreement and respect between the employer and the employee, and punctuality is key to maintaining this relationship.

Students were introduced to the skills necessary to enter the job market. Each skill was explained so that students could prepare themselves. They were also advised to hone their skills and enrich their portfolios by working in smaller organizations to gain experience.

Ms. Rahman stated that individuals should be open-minded about opportunities and avail those that come their way. She focused on keeping CVs updated, listing skills in the CV in order of competency, and she recommended subscribing to job alerts on professional job sites like LinkedIn and BD Jobs. Accurate and error-free CVs and cover letters are key. Students were also advised to conduct a market research to know the salary range for a job and not to sell themselves short.

The workshop ended with a round of questions and answers.

The workshop can be viewed [here](#).

Report by Nabila Faizra Islam (201013115)

Event 12: ULAB Holds 7th Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition



The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized its 7th Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition on December 29-30, 2021. This year, to celebrate the 50 years of the nation's independence, the department chose the theme "Fifty Years of Bangladesh's Independence: Language, Literature, and Culture."

Ms. Ameenah Ahmed, Member, ULAB Board of Trustees, and Mr. Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, graced the occasion as the Guests of Honor.

Every year, the Department of English and Humanities organizes this student conference and cultural competition to foster scholarship and creativity in a friendly, competitive environment for students of all universities in Bangladesh. The department partnered with the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and *The Daily Star* for this year's event.

This year, the conference received an overwhelming response. Students from 18 public and private universities participated in the two-day event. The universities are American International University, Bangladesh (AIUB); Asian University for Women; BRAC University; Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP); Central Women's University; Daffodil International University; University of Dhaka; Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University; Notre Dame University, Bangladesh; Port City International University, Chattogram; Premier University, Chattogram; Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST); Southern University Bangladesh, Chattogram; Stamford University; State University of Bangladesh; University of Asia Pacific; World University Bangladesh; and the host, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).

The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB takes pride in organizing innovative programs to motivate students in different ways. The Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition is one such initiative which is now in its 7th year. ULAB is the only university in Bangladesh that has been consistently organizing such a conference for university students all over the country.

The conference was also attended by Prof. Imran Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, ULAB, Prof. Dr. Shamsad Mortuza, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head, Dept. of English and Humanities, Faculty Members, Administrative officials and Students among others.

News coverage can be seen at: [The Daily Star](#) | [Dhaka Tribune](#) | [Bangladesh -Pratidin](#) | [Daily Ittefaq](#) | [bdnews24.com](#) | [Banglanews24.com](#) | [The Daily Campus.](#) | [Bangla Tribune](#) | [risingbd.com](#) | [risingbd.com \(Bangla\)](#) | [The Statement 24](#) | [bdtone24.com](#) | [BahannoNews](#) | [Kalerkantha](#) | Others:

[1](#) [2](#)





Event 13: Student Workshop: Interview Skills

Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

A Workshop on
Interview Skills

Ms. Nadia Rahman
Assistant Professor, DEH

About the Facilitator:
Nadia Rahman completed her Masters in English Literature from the University of Chittagong and is a State Alumna of SUSI 2016. Currently, she is pursuing her doctoral studies at the Bangladesh University of Professionals and her research is on female Anglophone writers of Bangladesh. Her areas of interest include South Asian women writers, Victorian Literature, Theater and Adaptation, American Literature and creative writing. She has over 17 years of academic experience at university level teaching that included working in different key administrative posts within the universities that she worked. She has been with ULAB since 2011. Currently, she is the Advisor of the Student Affairs Office.

Thursday, 6 January 2022 | 9:30 AM

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a workshop on “Interview Skills” to help students feel confident and make the right preparations to face interviews. Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor of DEH, conducted the workshop on January 6, 2022 and spoke about her experience in interviews.

Ms. Rahman underlined the importance of being confident and prepared because, at interviews, the applicants are evaluated on what they have to offer. Ms. Rahman emphasized that enthusiasm, pro-activeness, and intelligence can impress an interviewer. She advised students to be alert after sending applications so that phone calls or emails are not missed. Ms. Rahman also asked students various questions and then provided pointers on how they can precisely and successfully handle

different situations.

One of the key pieces of advice was to conduct a background study of the institution or company applied to. Following that, applicants should customize their responses according to the company’s requirements. Ms. Rahman noted that ensuring timely arrival to relaxing nerves and preparing to tackle the interview are essential to making a good impression. She also provided tips on how interviewees should present themselves, be mindful of their body language, know the appropriate formal wear, and carry minimal bags or files. Since the interview is taken to learn more about the applicant, the latter must generate interest in the interviewers by passionately talking about their acquired skills, their aspirations and goals. Ms. Rahman warned the students to be careful about mentioning information that might give away their weaknesses.

Another area on which the workshop focused was knowledge of culture when preparing for interviews for foreign scholarships. Ms. Rahman provided tips for engaging in Cultural Exchange Programs and participating in cultural events because doing so demonstrates awareness of one's own culture as well as that of others. This can be an added advantage in an applicant's portfolio.

Common interview mistakes were discussed and additional tips were provided on how to deal with unfamiliar questions. The workshop concluded with a lively discussion where Ms. Rahman encouraged the students to be confident and offered further advice in response to their questions and concerns.

The workshop can be viewed [here](#).

Report by Amina (193013022)

Event 14: Graduate Student Seminar Fall 2021



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Art Bangladesh (ULAB) organized the Graduate Student Seminar for Fall 2021 on January 6, 2022. This is a regular event of the department that aims to highlight notable student papers prepared for courses. The papers are selected based on course instructors' recommendations and attempts are made to include representatives from each of the three MA tracks: Literature and Cultural Studies, Applied Linguistics and TESOL, and Literature and Creative Writing.

The seminar began with Marjuque-ul-Haque's paper, "Afghanistan in Bollywood Films." Marjuque is from the Literature and Cultural Studies track. In his paper, Marjuque selected eight Bollywood films from different eras and discussed how the films portrayed Afghanistan as barbaric and displayed common misconceptions about their culture. He also highlighted the difference between Bollywood and Hollywood orientalism.

The second presenter, Abir Saha, from the Applied Linguistics and TESOL track, presented his paper on "Materials Development and the Empirical Value." He gave an overview of materials development, its impact, production, evaluation, aims, and objectives, and the sociological value of materials.

Finally, Krishti Aung Leona, also from the Literature and Cultural Studies track, shared her ideas on "Building Contemporary Global Consciousness through Transitional Literature." She spoke about the effect of climate change and gave a synopsis on migration and the refugee crisis, the Myanmar and Rohingya crisis, Canada's indigenous children, and ethnic minorities in Bangladesh.

At the end of the seminar, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB and Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, conveyed his thanks to the students and added some thoughts on indigenous populations all over the world. He shared his in-depth thoughts on how creative insights and critical engagement are essentials for development.

The seminar was attended by students and faculty from the department as well as guests.

The seminar can be viewed [here](#).

Report by Faria Karim (193013096)

Event 15: Student Workshop: Speaking Skills

Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
SRAJESHAH

A Workshop On
Speaking Skills

Facilitator
Md. Muntasir Mamun
Assistant Professor,
Department of English and Humanities ULAB

About the Facilitator
Muntasir Mamun has twelve years of teaching experience at university level in English language and literature. He began his career as a lecturer of Eastern University, Dharmoad, where he taught courses in both the Honours and Masters programs from 2004 to 2011. In addition to teaching there, he worked as the coordinator for the Cultural Club for more than four years. He has also taught at ASA University from 2011 to 2013. Muntasir joined ULAB's Department of English and Humanities as an Assistant Professor in 2013 and has been teaching here since. At ULAB, he serves as the Advisor for the club Theatre ULAB, and encourages and motivates students to become involved in cultural activities.

6:30PM | Google Meet | Sunday
January 9, 2022

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized an online student workshop on “Speaking Skills” on January 9, 2022. The workshop was conducted by Md. Muntasir Mamun, Assistant Professor, DEH.

The aim of the session was to highlight the importance of speaking skills and help students understand the ways to hold the audience’s attention. There was a lot of emphasis on getting the audience involved in the discussion while keeping the structure organized. Some non-verbal aspects of being a good speaker include wearing formal attire, changing facial expressions, movements and gestures, etc.

Some other tips to overcome stage fright were suggested. These include taking deep breaths, exhibiting confidence, positive self-affirmations, avoiding errors and managing eye contact. The tips and tricks mentioned

in the workshop can be used to enhance speaking skills, especially for course presentations.

The workshop included a participatory element where participants were encouraged to practice speaking by telling ghost stories. The session was fun and interactive where participants asked questions and clarified their confusions about speaking.

Report by Sahar Islam (193013008)

Event 16: Student Workshop: Applying for Higher Studies

Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
SRAJESHAH

Webinar
Applying for Higher Studies

13 January, 2022
Thursday | 6:30PM
Google Meet

Facilitator
Dr. Syeda Farzana Sultana
Assistant Professor, Department of English
and Humanities

About the Facilitator
Dr. Syeda Farzana Sultana received her PhD. in Education from the Warner School of Education, University of Rochester, USA. She was the recipient of the prestigious Qualifying Scholarship offered by the Warner School. She also obtained an Advanced Certificate in Online Teaching from Warner School. She received her master's and bachelor's degrees in English Literature from the University of Dhaka. Dr. Sultana has over 18 years of teaching experience in different universities in Bangladesh and in the US. She was hired by the Vienna School of Education as an adjunct faculty, and she also served as a Writing Consultant at the Warner School for five years. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to teach Bengali on Florida, Central State University and University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA. She won the University Award Project Grant Competition for 2009/2010 together with a colleague and successfully completed the project. She is currently serving as the General Secretary of TESOL Society of Bangladesh and Chairman of its Educational Technology SIG.

A webinar on “Applying for Higher Studies” was organized by the Department of English and Humanities on January 13, 2022. Facilitated by Dr. Syeda Farzana Sultana, Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities (DEH), the workshop ran for approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes and was attended by 85+ participants. The objective of this webinar was to guide participants about the crucial factors that must be taken into account when applying for higher studies abroad. Dr. Sultana also shared some personal anecdotes about her experiences and gave useful insights regarding the importance of choosing a university and a career after thorough research. She highlighted how every practical aspect of life must be taken into consideration before making the final call since finance and mode of survival are very difficult and can vary from one individual to another based on their personality.

The webinar began with the facilitator breaking the ice by interacting with the students about how she felt quite indecisive regarding her life choices. On this statement of hers, more students joined the conversation and shared similar personal experiences. At the end of the workshop, the floor was opened for a question-answer session.

Report by Nisbat Tabassum (183013044)

Event 17: Curriculum Integration Program Showcase: “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice”



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized the Final Presentation Showcase event of the Fall 2021 Curriculum Integration Program on the theme “Of Sustainability and Development: Academia Meets Practice” on January 20, 2022. In total, twenty-two groups from different courses of DEH presented their projects/presentations focusing on different SDGs - fusing them with their major/core academic subjects. The participating courses were ENG302 Novel -1 (section 1), ENG 208 Sociolinguistics (Section 1 and 2), ENG 2103 Morphology and Syntax, ENG 223 Romantic Poetry, ENG 225 Shakespeare, ENG 402 Victorian Literature, and ENG 411 Semantics and Pragmatics – both literature and linguistics

courses.

Students contributed to the CI using self-written skits, posters presentations, academic presentations, and documentaries within a time limit of 10 minutes each. The judges of this competition were Dr. Tabassum Zaman, Associate Professor, DEH, and Mohammad Mosiur Rahman, Senior Lecturer, DEH. At the end, three groups were announced as the winners of the Fall ‘21 Curriculum Integration program.

The Champions were the group from Batch 193 called Turning Point from ENG 225 Shakespeare. The members were Farhan Labib Reza, Amina, Sahar Islam, Noshin Tasnim Hassan (193013030).

The First Runner Up group were from ENG 208 (sec 1) Sociolinguistics and the members, from Batch 201, were Syeda Maliha Mahmud, Mehelika Anan, Md Razin Saleh Alam, Md Khalid Saifullah, Shanjida Nusrath Ali.

The Second Runner Up group was from ENG 208 (sec 2) Sociolinguistics. The members, from Batch 201, included Md. Abdullah Al Maruf, Shrabony Rahman, Nusrat Chowdhury Sojja, Tanjila Fairoz, Afra Anjum, Tasfiyah Saba.

The judges also made Honorable Mention of the group from ENG 223 Romantic Poetry which was comprised of Isra Tahiya Islam, Mayesha Islam, and Rafia Benta Yousuf Ritu. All the winners were awarded a cash prize.

The event was concluded by the Pro-Vice Chancellor and the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Prof. Shamsad Mortuza who appreciated the students’ outstanding CI contributions. The vote of thanks was presented at the end by Ms. Tasmia Mayen, Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities, and the convener of the Fall 2021 Curriculum Integration Program.

The event was hosted by Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury, a student from the Department of English and Humanities.

Report by Shabriyer Hossain Shetu (182013004), Teaching Assistant, DEH

Event 18: Webinar: “A Corona Story” – Diasporic Experiences of the Pandemic



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a webinar titled "A Corona Story": Diasporic Experiences of the Pandemic, by Dr. Chris Tang, Lecturer in International Education & Applied Linguistics, King's College London, in association with the English departments of NSU, BRACU, and IUB, and coordinated by Professor Shaila Sultana. The webinar was held online on January 22, 2022.

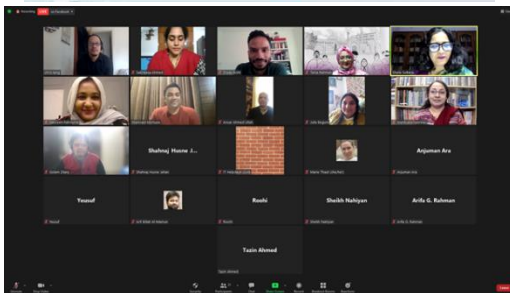
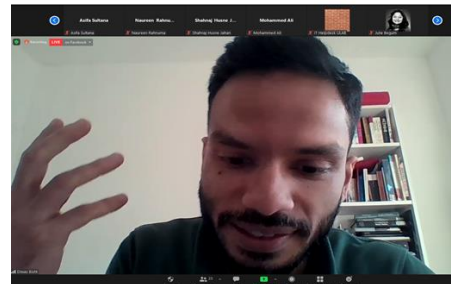
At the webinar, Dr. Chris Tang, Lecturer in International Education & Applied Linguistics, King's College London, disseminated his findings of a project funded by King's College and the Swadhinata Trust. An animation film was launched at the webinar.

This film is the outcome of the study and focuses on the experiences of a Bangladeshi family living in East London. The study and film offered insights into a different kind of applied linguistics through an exploration of the roles of language, family life and community in how UK Bangladeshis had to learn about and live with the coronavirus.



The animation film showed a unique way of reaching communities and possible ways of transforming lives. In addition, the project showed the strength of interdisciplinary collaboration including with non-profit organizations and community members.

The project team included Dr Chris Tang, Julie Begum and Ansar Ahmed Ullah of the Swadhinata Trust, Mrs Rajahan Begum, one of the project participants, and Diwas Bisht, the film's animator. In addition, the project raised awareness of the strengths of an interdisciplinary collaboration for ensuring rigor in research. Participants saw a demonstration of how research projects can be strengthened by collaborating with other researchers from other disciplines, non-profit organizations, and community members. Finally, the project showed a significant history of diaspora and life trajectories of Bangladeshi immigrants in the UK, and their contribution in economy, culture, and history of the UK.

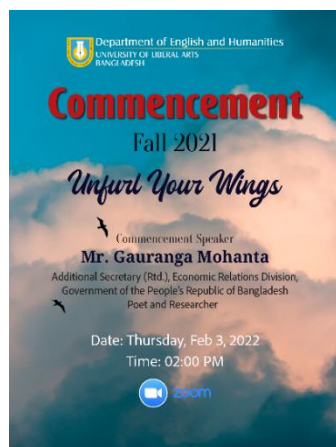


Drawing on cultural scenes

Rule breakers and rule sticklers:
Social relationships as key driver of (non-) compliance




Event 19: Commencement Fall 2021



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized the Fall 2021 Commencement program on February 3, 2022 for the successful BA and MA graduating students. The program was organized by the junior students of DEH from batch 182 to wish and congratulate the graduates on their hard-earned graduation degrees.

The event was graced by the presence of Dr. Gauranga Mohanta, Additional Secretary (Rtd.), Economic Relations Division, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; former Project Director, Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project; poet and researcher, who spoke to the graduates as the Commencement Speaker. Having years of first-hand experience in the education sector and different areas of social research, Dr. Mohanta elaborated on the professional and academic

prospects for English major students.

The program commenced with the opening remarks and heartfelt congratulations to the successful graduates by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of DEH. Then Professor Kaiser Haq rejuvenated the students with his inspiring words and warm wishes to fare forward. The Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB and Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, congratulated the graduates and gave advice about strategies to overcome challenges and embrace opportunities in the professional and academic spheres that they would opt to pursue in their near future.

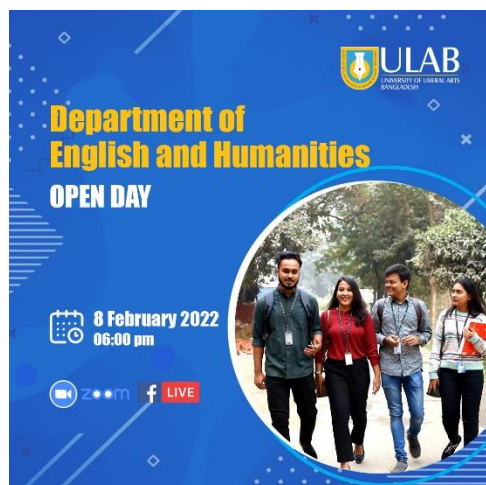
DEH graduating students, Fairuz Maliha Surma from BA and Farzana Afroj from MA, shared their precious memories with their classmates, fellow students, and faculty members. Other graduates along with DEH faculty members joined in the conversations and expressed their nostalgia too.

A cultural performance was put on for the graduates where students from both BA and MA in English participated. Lamia Jashim Uddin and Ismat Murshid Khan each recited a poem that focused on the theme of farewell and the spirit of independence followed by a heart-touching song performance by Alen Henry. The signature segment of the event was a video presentation of the graduates' memories with ULAB and DEH faculty members' warm wishes and congratulations to them.

Mohammed Zaki Rezwan, Senior Lecturer and BA Coordinator at DEH, delivered the vote of thanks to the volunteers who helped put the program together. The event was hosted by Benozir Alam Aishee. The TAs of DEH, Vincent Dip Gomes and Shahriyer Hossain Shetu were responsible for organizing and coordinating the program while Amimul Ihsan designed the poster for the event.

Report by Vincent Dip Gomes (182013034)

Event 20: DEH Open Day



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh held its Open Day Program on February 8, 2022, to welcome the incoming BA and MA students of Spring 2022, and to address questions that potential students of DEH may have. The event took place online and offered the freshers and their parents/guardians an introduction to the faculty members, signature programs, and alumni of DEH along with a chance to have answers to their academic and procedural concerns.

The program started with Professor Kaiser Haq instilling inspiration and encouragement into the participants as they embark on a new phase of their academic journeys. He also highlighted the strength of the globally renowned faculty members of the department and the sophisticated writing culture that DEH nurtures and promotes. Mr. Zamal Uddin Bhuiyan, Deputy Registrar, Admissions, then spoke about the national and international accolades that DEH has achieved. He congratulated the students for making a wise decision in choosing DEH, ULAB. The Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB and Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, welcomed the freshers to ULAB and emphasized the importance of studying humanities and developing a critical thinking capacity. He also spoke about the diverse professional scopes for English major students in local and international spheres.

Mohammad Mosiur Rahman, Senior Lecturer, DEH, who ranks 3rd in Bangladesh for research in Literature and Linguistics, highlighted the vibrant and resourceful research culture and facilities that ULAB offers. Ms. Mehek Chowdhury, an alumna of DEH, ULAB, now a Lecturer at the department and Advisor of MUSE, the student magazine run by DEH students, shared her memories with DEH and spoke about contributing to MUSE (Mouthpiece of the ULAB Students of English).

DEH alumna, Sofia Zafrin, currently an MA in English student at ULAB, made students aware of the opportunities, world-class education, and research facilities that DEH offers, which drew her back to DEH for her MA degree. Then, DEH alumna, Radia Al Rashid, a Gold Medalist from ULAB and currently pursuing an MA in Language and Linguistics at the University of Westminster, London, UK with an international excellence scholarship, shared her memories with DEH, ULAB. She also offered advice and motivation to the freshers on their future endeavors.

The event ended with an interactive question/answer session where the freshers interacted with the speakers and clarified their queries and concerns. The program was hosted by the TA of MA in English, DEH, Vincent Dip Gomes, who was assisted by Shahriyer Hossain Shetu, TA, BA in English. Amimul Ihsan designed the poster for the event.

The full program can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/ULABian/videos/232545482423036>.

Report by Vincent Dip Gomes (182013034)



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