



Department of English and Humanities

UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

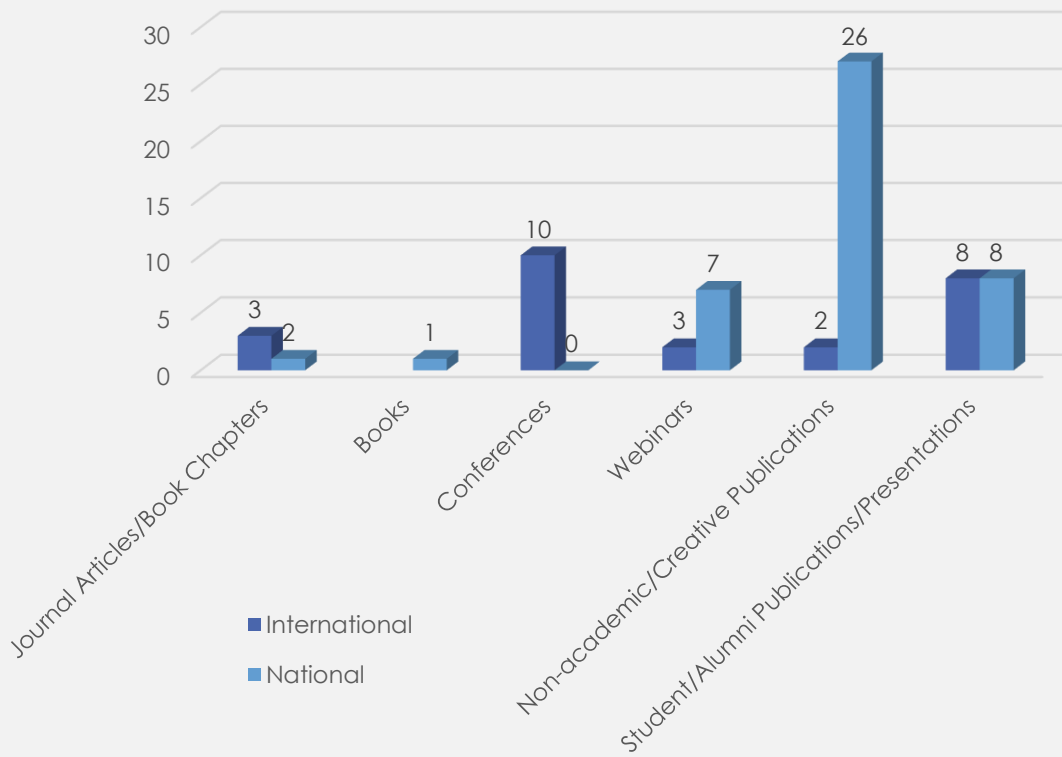
Publications and Events Report

Summer 2021

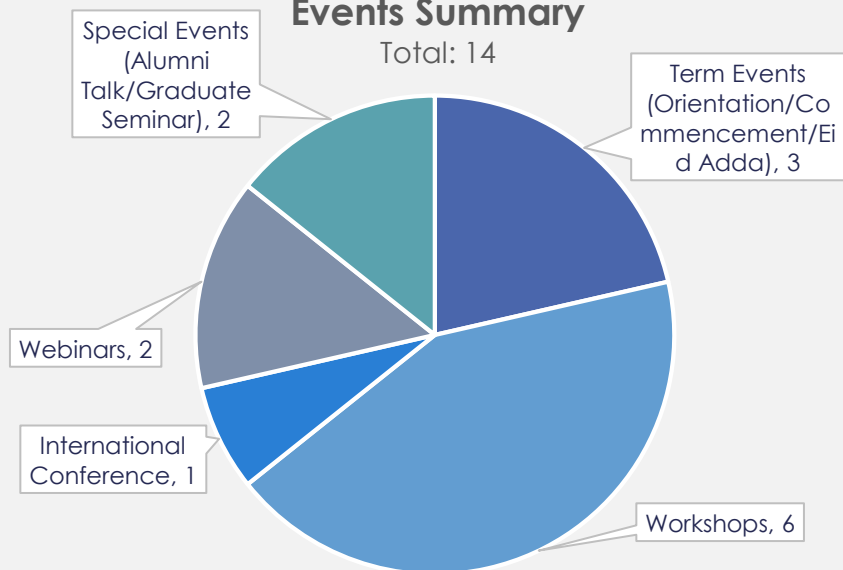
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Publications Summary



Events Summary



Publications

Journal Articles/Book Chapters

International

Haq, Kaiser. "Bengali Literary Translingualism." *The Routledge Handbook of Literary Translingualism*, edited by Steven G. Kellman and Natasha Lvovich. Routledge, 2021. ISBN 9780367279189.

Haq, Kaiser. "A Highbrow 'Hijra': Kaiser Haq in Conversation with Mohammad A. Quayum." *Creative Lives: Interviews with Contemporary South Asian Diaspora Writers*, edited by Chandani Lokuge and Chris Ringrose. ibidem Press, 2021, pp. 136-153. ISBN-13: 978-3838215440.

Sultana, Shaila, and Brook Bolander. "English in a Multilingual Ecology: 'Structures of Feeling' in South and Central Asia." *Multilingua* (Accepted July 1, 2021). <https://doi.org/10.1515/multi-2020-0141>.

National

Haq, Kaiser. "Of Walls That Cannot Be Mended." *Crossings: A Journal of English Studies*, vol. 12, 2021, pp. 256-260.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "He Gave to Mis'ry All He Had: A Tear." *Commemorating Sheikh Mujib: The Greatest Bengali of the Millenium*, edited by Shamsad Mortuza. ULAB Press, 2021, pp. 166-171.

Books

Mortuza, Shamsad, editor. *Commemorating Sheikh Mujib: The Greatest Bengali of the Millenium*. ULAB Press, 2021.

Conferences

International

Zaman, Tabassum. "Understanding the All-in-One Home Space." Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society (IACSS) Conference 2021: Culture in the Pandemic Age. National University of Singapore (NUS). July 28-30, 2021.

- Mortuza, Shamsad. “SDG-Based Impact Ranking of Higher Education and the Role of English: Perspective From Bangladesh.” Plenary Speaker. Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Nahiyan, Sheikh. “Reterritorializing English: Creating Meaning in Local Contexts of Bangladesh.” Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Sultana, Syeda Farzana. “Autoethnography of a Higher Education Teacher Transitioning to Online Teaching in Bangladesh” Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Haq, Kaiser. “English Studies in the Age of World Englishes and World Literature.” Roundtable Discussant. Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Sultana, Shaila. “Indigenous Ethnic Minority Students in the Multilingual Ecology of Bangladesh.” Panel Discussion. Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Islam, Syed Manzoorul. “Entangled Englishes and the missing links in English language education in Bangladesh.” Roundtable Discussant. Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Islam, Syed Manzoorul. “Interviews and Conversations.” Interview by Dr. Fayeza Hasanat. South Asian Online Literary Conference. Sahitya Akademi and Foundation of SAARC Writers and Literature (FOSWAL). October 7, 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zosEmooS5Rw>
- Haq, Kaiser. “Poetry Session.” Chair. South Asian Online Literary Conference. Sahitya Akademi and Foundation of SAARC Writers and Literature (FOSWAL). October 8, 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1zJIVnVy5M>
- Manzoor, Sohana. “Interviews and Conversations.” Conversation with Rifat Munim on “Problems of Literary Translations in Bangladesh.” South Asian Online Literary Conference. Sahitya Akademi and Foundation of SAARC Writers and Literature (FOSWAL). October 9, 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAlk1U5uK5I>.

Webinars

International

- Atiya, Nishat. “Introducing Arif Anwar’s *The Storm*.” Reading Circle with Khan Touseef Osman. August 28, 2021.

Mortuza, Shamsad. “Gendered Education.” Panelist. Fulbright Alumni Association and Global Aid for Sustainable Development. September 10, 2021.

Mortuza, Shamsad. “Future Trends in Global Higher Education Internationalization, Session 1: Internationalization in the Covid Era.” Speaker. Hollings Center, Boston. October 20, 2021.

National

Noor, Qazi Mustabeen. “IELTS Workshop: Speaking and Listening.” ULAB. July 29, 2021.

Noor, Qazi Mustabeen. “IELTS Workshop: Reading and Writing.” ULAB. July 31, 2021.

Rahman, Arifa Ghani. “Learning Management System (LMS): Repository and Access.” Certificate in eLearning and Teaching (CeLT): An Initiative of fLTR. August 12, 2021.

Osman, Khan Touseef. “The Lone Researcher: Episode 7.” August 27, 2021.
<https://www.facebook.com/BangladeshLit/videos/2687954108164882>.

Osman, Khan Touseef. “Exploring the Importance of Social Impact through the Lens of Education.” Panel Speaker. *Teach for Bangladesh*. September 18, 2021.
<https://www.facebook.com/tfbangladesh/videos/399552451801471>.

Sultana, Syeda Farzana. “Effective Email Communications: Techniques and Tips.” ULAB. September 18, 2021.

Zaman, Tabassum. “The Lone Researcher: Episode 8.” October 8, 2021.
<https://www.facebook.com/BangladeshLit/videos/545634963330451/>.

Non-Academic and Creative Publications

International

Haq, Kaiser. “States at War with the Nation.” *National Herald India*. August 15, 2021.
http://epaper.nationalheraldindia.com/imageview_2404_125951316_4_71_15-08-2021_i_1_sf.html?fbclid=IwAR3gMnR9hgZZnfuaMZqx4qB47_dw_Lz1gi5YCYfBNeyeB_OAI8FNYxEBf7k

Haq, Kaiser. “2020-nKarV.” *The Gollancz Book of South Asian Science Fiction*, edited by Tarun Saint. Vol. 2. Hachette India, 2021.

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Haq, Kaiser. “Ode on the Sari.” *Golden: Bangladesh at 50 – Contemporary Poems and Stories*, edited by Shazia Omar. UPL, 2021.

Mortuza, Shamsad. “Street Violence and Gang Culture 2.0.” *The Daily Star*. June 26, 2021.
<https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/street-violence-and-gang-culture-20-2118065>.

- Haq, Kaiser. "Dhaka University and Our Literary Culture." *The Daily Star*. July 2, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/views/opinion/news/dhaka-university-and-our-literary-culture-2121681>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Mother of All Bangladeshi Universities." *The Daily Star*. July 3, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/mother-all-bangladeshi-universities-2122211>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Problem with Academic Bureaucratisation." *The Daily Star*. July 9, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/the-problem-academic-bureaucratisation-2126051>.
- Haq, Kaiser. "A Perennial Philosophy: Amitav Ghosh's *Jungle Nama*." *The Daily Star*. July 15, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/culture/books/fiction-poetry/news/perennial-philosophy-amitav-ghoshs-jungle-nama-2130646>.
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- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Maracana, Wembley, Cannes and Narayanganj." *The Daily Star*. July 17, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/maracana-wembley-cannes-and-narayanganj-2131811>.
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- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Heart of the Matter." *The Daily Star*. July 24, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/the-heart-the-matter-2135471>.
- Manzoor, Sohana. "The Puddle Jumper." *The Daily Star*. July 24, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/star-literature/news/the-puddle-jumper-2135721>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Intergenerational Divides in the Time of Covid-19." *The Daily Star*. July 31, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/intergenerational-divides-the-time-covid-19-2140971>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Lizards Losing their Tails." *The Daily Star*. August 7, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/lizards-losing-their-tails-2146486>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Ideals that Bangabandhu Lived and Died for." *The Daily Star*. August 15, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/views/opinion/news/the-ideals-bangabandhu-lived-and-died-2152266>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "There are No Secrets in the World." *The Daily Star*. August 22, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/there-are-no-secrets-the-world-2157431>.
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- Mortuza, Shamsad. "9/11: The Turning Point." *The Daily Star*. September 11, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/911-the-turning-point-2173006>.
- Manzoor, Sohana. "Obhoy's Insomnia." *The Daily Star*. September 11, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/star-literature/news/obhoys-insomnia-2173226>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "With Covid, There's no Easing Back into Campus." *The Daily Star*. September 18, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/views/opinion/news/covid-theres-no-easing-back-campus-2178241>.
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- Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Rape of the Lock: A Mock Epic Revisited." *The Daily Star*. October 2, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/the-rape-the-lock-mock-epic-revisited-2188751>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "A Momentary Lapse of Reason." *The Daily Star*. October 9, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/momentary-lapse-reason-2193866>.
- Haq, Kaiser. "Remembering a literary personality: Farida Majid (1942-2021)." *The Daily Star*. October 7, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/daily-star-books/news/remembering-literary-personality-farida-majid-1942-2021-2192721>.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "Death is Inevitable, but We Must Not Get Used to It." *The Daily Star*. October 16, 2021. <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/death-inevitable-we-must-not-get-used-it-2199126>.

Student/Alumni Publications and Presentations

International

- Rahman, SAM Raihanur. "Climate Change as a Transnational Predicament: Dislocation and the Human Condition in Amitav Ghosh's *Gun Island*." *Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces*. University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Sept. 2-4, 2021.
- Hossain, Shahriyer. "'Open Talk': A Book Discussion with Olga Grjasnowa." *Discussant*. Goethe Institut Dhaka. August 19, 2021. <https://www.facebook.com/goetheinstitut.bangladesh/videos/553494905696892>.

- Tasnim, Monisha. “Open Talk’: A Book Discussion with Olga Grjasnowa.” Discussant. Goethe Institut Dhaka. August 19, 2021. <https://www.facebook.com/goetheinstitut.bangladesh/videos/553494905696892>.
- Chowdhury, Abdul Munim. “Open Talk’: A Book Discussion with Olga Grjasnowa.” Discussant. Goethe Institut Dhaka. August 19, 2021. <https://www.facebook.com/goetheinstitut.bangladesh/videos/553494905696892>.
- Hossain, Shahriyer. “Little Things.” *Borderless Journal*. July 14, 2021. <https://borderlessjournal.com/2021/07/14/little-things/>.
- Haque, Marjuque-ul. “Three Men at the Lalbagh Fort.” *Borderless Journal*. July 14, 2021. <https://borderlessjournal.com/2021/07/14/three-men-at-the-lalbagh-fort/>.
- Ananda, Ahsan Rajib. “Magnum Opus.” *Borderless Journal*. July 14, 2021. <https://borderlessjournal.com/2021/07/14/magnum-opus/>.
- Hossain, Shahriyer. “Have You Ever Felt the Way I Feel?” *Setu: Bilingual Monthly Journal*. September 2021. <https://www.setumag.com/2021/09/have-you-ever-felt-way-i-feel.html>.

National

- Badrudzaman, Mohammad, and Mahmud Hasan Khan. “The Patterns of Sequential Organization of a Person with Asperger Syndrome: A Conversation Analysis.” *BELTA Journal*, vol. 5, June 2021. <https://www.journal.belta-bd.org/article/beltaj.2021.0501.02>.
- Al Rashid, Radia. “Language Beyond the Skyline.” DEH Alumni Talk, ULAB. July 10, 2021.
- Nur, Zannat E. “Poetry According to Poets: Adrienne Rich & Gertrude Stein.” Graduate Student Seminar, ULAB. August 26, 2021.
- Uddin, Md. Jalal. “Transnational Turn in Literature.” Graduate Student Seminar, ULAB. August 26, 2021.
- Khan, Mohammad Ishtiaque. “Linguistic Imperialism.” Graduate Student Seminar, ULAB. August 26, 2021.
- Chowdhury, Minaal Nauman. “Sari, Not Sorry.” Graduate Student Seminar, ULAB. August 26, 2021.
- Joti, Sirajum Munir. “World Englishes in Periphery Classrooms: Reflections on Suresh Canagarajah’s Concerns.” Graduate Student Seminar, ULAB. August 26, 2021.
- Johan, Monabbir. “করোনায় অনলাইন পরীক্ষার প্রয়োজনীয়তা ও করণীয়.” *Prothom Alo*. July 3, 2021. <https://www.prothomalo.com/education/higher-education/করোনায়-অনলাইন-পরীক্ষার-প্রয়োজনীয়তা-ও-করণীয়>

Event Reports

Event 1: DEH Summer 2021 BA and MA Orientation



ULAB's Department of English and Humanities welcomed its incoming undergraduate and graduate students of Summer 2021 through two separate online orientations organized on Google Meet. The undergraduate orientation was held on July 1, 2021 from 3 PM to 4:30 PM and the graduate orientation was held on July 3, 2021 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

Professor Shamsad Mortuza, the Acting Vice-Chancellor of ULAB and the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, was present

at both programs to welcome the freshers.

At the BA in English Orientation, Head of Department, Associate Professor Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman introduced the faculty members and the department staff to the new students. Students from Batch 211 welcomed the incoming Batch 212 with some performances. Fardeen Azwaad gave a welcome speech to the freshers. The program was hosted by Fatema Aftab Miah. The MA orientation followed a similar pattern and was conducted by the MA Coordinator, Associate Professor Dr. Sohana Manzoor.



Among others, the professors of the department, Dr. Kaiser Haq and Dr. Syed Manzoorul Islam welcomed the new students with warm, insightful, and encouraging words for their upcoming exciting journey at ULAB. The new students then introduced themselves to the faculty members and their peers.

The posters for both programs were designed by MA student, Lutfun Naher Mahmud Oysharja.

Event 2: DEH Organizes Workshop on Digital Humanities



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized a workshop titled “Introducing Digital Humanities: The New Horizon of Humanities and Storytelling Scholarship” on July 1, 2021. The workshop garnered attention from students and faculty members from all departments as this is a relevant and trending area of study.

The concept of the workshop was proposed and implemented by Dr. Ahmed Abid, a filmmaker and researcher, and co-facilitated with Dr. Ananya Raihan, Ashoka Fellow and CEO of iSocial, Infolady Social Enterprise Limited, and Founder Executive Director of Dnet, and Ms. Humayra Akhter, development media professional and lecturer at World University Bangladesh.

The workshop focused on providing participants with a hands-on experience of Digital Humanities from a cultural studies and digital life perspective. Dr. Ananya Raihan kicked off the workshop by providing a framework for the study of digital humanities in his talk titled “The Landscape of Digital Humanities.” He spoke about “The Digital Divide from the Perspective of Social and Behavioral Aspects of the Users from the Bottom of the Pyramid”. He also provided insight on Digital Technology (DT), its impact on present life, and how the future will evolve due to DT. His analysis was developed around how to respond to DT, net safety, net neutrality including freedom of expression. Participants were made aware of managing and protecting their virtual identity, the need for collecting and sharing data, and maintaining their digital privacy following ethical standards.



The second part of the workshop, aptly titled “I am not a Robot,” began with Ms. Humayra Akhter’s presentation on “The Influence of Literature in the Development of DH at Present and Future.” A short film was shown as an example of digital security and privacy, and as a development project for storytelling.

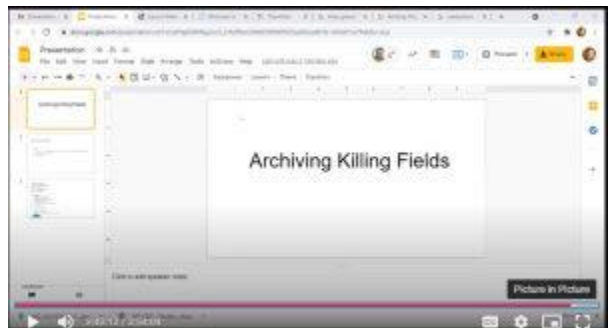
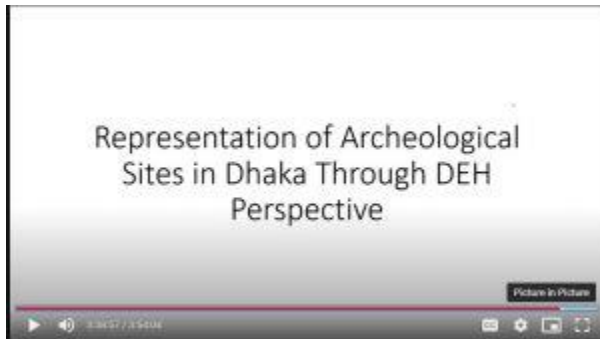
This was followed by a hands-on workshop where participants were sent to breakout rooms and instructed to develop and demonstrate a couple of ideas to develop a project. These ideas were later shared and the facilitators used them to show how to enhance them with the right tools and methods.



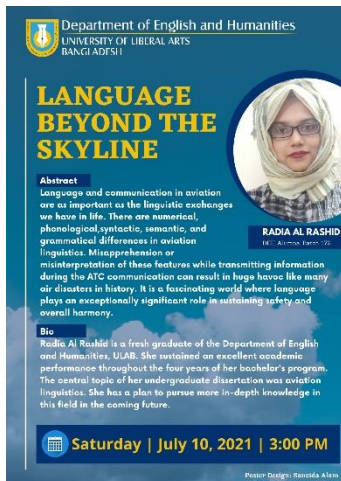
Prof. Shamsad Mortuza, Acting Vice-Chancellor, ULAB, and Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of DEH, attended the workshop along with 25 students and faculty members from DEH, MSJ, USB, and CSE. At the end of the workshop, participants were awarded with Certificates of Participation.

Some glimpses of the Workshop:





Event 3: DEH Alumni Talk: Radia Al Rashid on Aviation Linguistics



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized a talk on aviation linguistics titled “Language Beyond the Skyline” on July 10, 2021. The talk was given by one of the department’s fresh graduates, Radia Al Rashid, whose undergraduate thesis topic was related to the field of aviation linguistics. Former High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam, Air Vice Marshal (Rtd) Mahmud Hussain, graced the talk as Special Guest and Discussant.

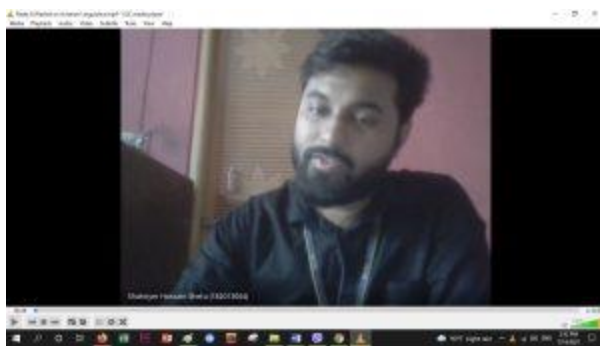
In her talk, Radia Al Rashid first introduced the concepts in aviation

linguistics and provided a brief history of the field to the audience comprised of students and faculty members. Then she discussed the linguistic problems related to air traffic control that are often faced by



aviators. She clarified the need to understand such problems as they can be crucial to the field of aviation where a slight misunderstanding can have devastating results.

After her talk, Air Vice Marshal (Rtd) Mahmud Hussain was introduced to the audience by the Head of Department, Associate Professor Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman. Air Vice Marshal (Rtd) Hussain discussed the field of aviation linguistics from his real life experiences. He suggested that the topic is important and a PhD research on it would enormously help the people working in the field of aviation.



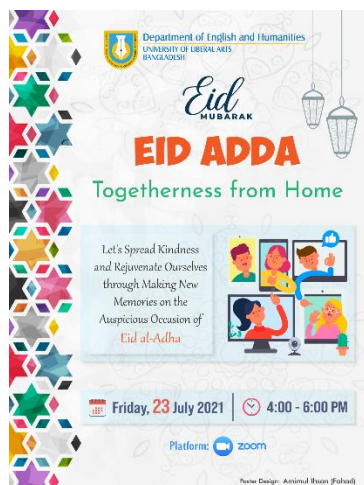
The talk was arranged online on Google Meet and hosted by Shahriyer Hossain Shetu. The vote of thanks was delivered by the Head of Department, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, who concluded the program.

The full version of the talk may be viewed at: <https://www.facebook.com/ulabdeh/videos/975750929938394>.

Some Glimpses of the Event:



Event 4: DEH Eid Adda 2021



ULAB's Department of English and Humanities (DEH) organized a virtual get-together for Eid titled "Eid Adda: Togetherness from Home" in celebration of the occasion of Eid al-Adha. The event was held over Zoom on July 23, 2021.

Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department of English and Humanities, gave the welcome speech for the program and shared some of her fun Eid memories.

Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Acting Vice-chancellor, ULAB, and Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, then shared his Eid experience with everyone and encouraged the students to stay mentally strong and positive during the ongoing pandemic.



The hosts of the event were Shahriyer Hossain Shetu and Vincent Dip Gomes, who constantly engaged faculty members, students, and alumni in exciting and humorous question/answer sessions as everyone shared their memories and experiences of Eid.



The cultural segment of the program included lively performances of songs, poetry recitation, a skit, and a dance. The center of attraction of the program was the head-to-head debate between two groups on the topic of "Cow vs Goat? Who do we Love the Most?" All the faculty members and students joined in and contributed to this debate and gave creative reasons justifying why they favor one over the other. The episodic skit, prepared and acted in by DEH undergrad students, was then performed.

The play, written and directed by the students, depicted, in a hilarious manner, some common scenarios people experience during Eid-al Adha.

At the end of the program, Vincent Dip Gomes, gave the vote of thanks and brought the program to a close. The poster for the program was designed by Amimul Ihsan (Fahad) from batch 191, DEH.

The event was a great success and provided some much-needed respite for the faculty members, students, and MA and BA alumni from DEH who joined in. The event was fully planned and executed by a 15-member student volunteer team from DEH led by Vincent Dip Gomes.

Prior to releasing the notice for the event, the organizing team published a fun trailer video to attract the audience. The trailer can be viewed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ulabdeh/videos/2636033200031718>

The full program can be viewed at: <https://www.facebook.com/ulabdeh/videos/348634873578034>

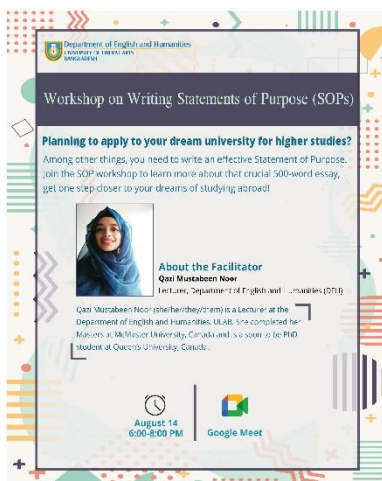
Some fun glimpses of the program:







Event 5: DEH Workshop on Writing Statements of Purpose



The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a workshop on writing statements of purpose (SoPs) for students who aspire to pursue higher studies abroad. The online workshop was held on August 14, 2021.

The workshop was conducted by Qazi Mustabeen Noor, Lecturer, DEH. The purpose of the workshop was to demonstrate how to write an effective SoP to help students who are planning to apply for higher studies as well as those who are planning to apply for jobs because an SoP is essentially an introduction. Knowing how to write an effective SoP can help with writing cover letters and practicing the elevator pitch to impress an interviewer.

Qazi Mustabeen Noor provided clear guidelines about writing the Statements of Purpose. She mentioned how, at times, this statement is also called a Statement of Intent or Personal Statement and it is a way to sell oneself to the admission committee. She also added that a standard SoP is six paragraphs long, a little different from the standard academic essay. “Generally, an SoP consists of 500-550 words, no more than three pages,” she said. The applicant should, however, always try to keep the statement to one or two pages at best. Ms. Noor then shared her own SoP as a model to help the student participants understand the process more clearly.

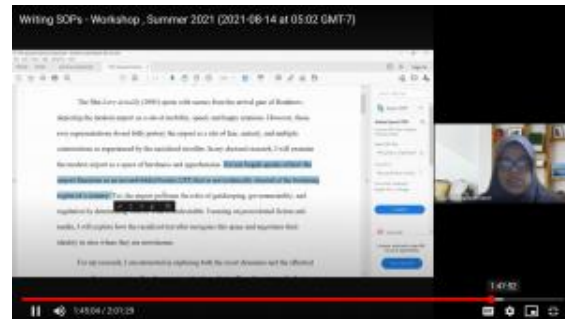
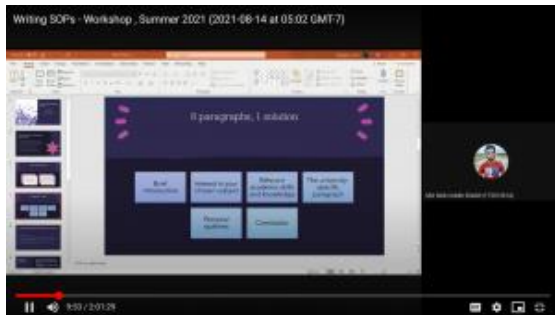
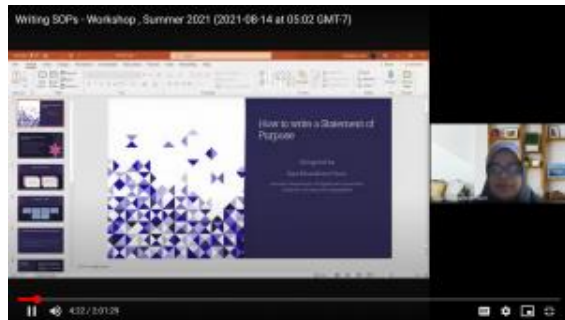
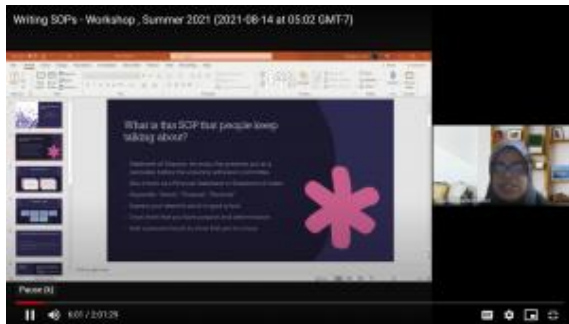
Ms. Arifa Rahman, Head, DEH, who was present at the program, gave a welcome speech at the beginning of the workshop. She said that SoPs are not only for gradating students or those who are in higher semesters and thinking about going abroad, but also for those who will interview for jobs because the personal statement is an elevator pitch used to impress the interviewer within a short period of time. Lastly, she also added that getting the reader's attention, holding it, and making a positive impression is needed, whether it is for an interview or higher studies.



At the end of the workshop, Ms. Noor advised the students to explore their chosen or selected foreign universities from their 3rd year of university as this will help them to pursue their future goals in a more planned and organized manner.

The workshop was attended mainly by DEH students but there were also student participants from the other departments.

Shots from the workshop:



Event 6: DEH Student Workshop on “Reclaiming Design”

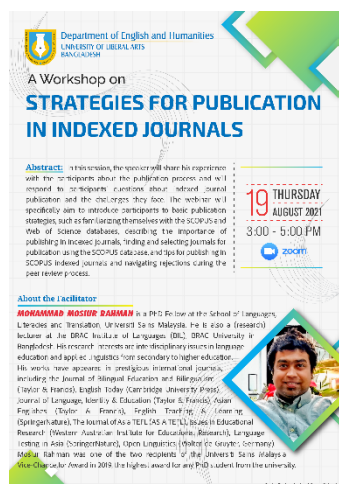


The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at ULAB organized a workshop titled “Reclaiming Design” on August 18 and August 19, 2021, for a selected group of design enthusiasts, students from DEH.

The workshop was facilitated by Mohammad Zaki Rezwan, Senior Lecturer, DEH. Rezwan’s areas of specialization include South Asian arts, aesthetics, and visual culture. His designs and illustrations have been commissioned by universities across Bangladesh.

At the workshop, he shared his experience and knowledge about design thinking, philosophy, and process. With vivid examples, he discussed different elements of graphic design in relation to the overall aesthetic choice. The workshop was designed to maximize the student’s contribution to a wide range of extracurricular activities at ULAB. This event concluded with the closing remarks delivered by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department, where she noted how workshops like this are regularly organized by DEH to help students in developing skills related to creativity and communication.

Event 7: DEH Faculty Workshop on “Strategies for Publication in Indexed Journals”



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized a workshop titled “Strategies for Publication in Indexed Journals” on August 19, 2021 for faculty members’ professional development. The workshop facilitator was Mohammad Mosiur Rahman, PhD Fellow at the School of Languages, Literacies and Translation, Universiti Sains Malaysia. Mr. Rahman’s areas of specialization include macro-level language policy, curriculum development and implementation to micro-level classroom language teaching. He has published more than 30 journal articles, indexed on the Web of Science and SCOPUS databases.

At the workshop, Mosiur shared his vast experience to suggest strategies to get published in indexed journals. He also addressed challenges that authors face during the process of publication. The speaker specifically introduced the participants to basic publication strategies, such as familiarizing themselves with the SCOPUS and Web of Science databases, describing the importance of publishing in indexed journals, finding and selecting journals for publication using the SCOPUS database, how journals depend on METRICS, the major causes of rejection, the reliability of journals, tips for publishing in SCOPUS indexed journals, and navigating rejections during the peer review process. He also mentioned the influence of SCOPUS journals in India, Pakistan, Malaysia, and China

while emphasizing that universities should focus on “creating knowledge.” He acknowledged that many faculty members are struggling to recognize the indexed journals and provided valuable guidelines on writing a research article. He mentioned the categories of publication for science and generic sections, provided review materials, and showed examples. He encouraged the faculty members to carry on with their publications despite all the challenges.

The event was inaugurated with the opening remarks of Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department, where she noted the importance of research and the pitfalls of the publication process. She also wrapped up the event with a vote of thanks to the speaker and the audience, which comprised faculty members from all departments of ULAB.

Event 8: Graduate Student Seminar

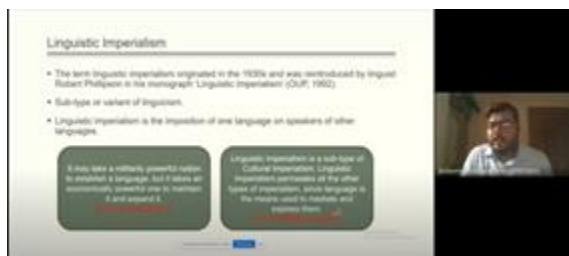


The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized its first Graduate Student Seminar on August 26, 2021. Five graduate students selected by respective course teachers, presented their papers and projects which they worked on in the spring semester.

The seminar started with a short yet enlightening speech given by Professor Kaiser Hamidul Haq. He emphasized on the importance of this seminar saying that it will allow the students to exhibit their ability of presenting lectures and research papers.



The first presenter of the seminar was Mohammad Ishtiaque Khan, a student of Applied Linguistics and TESOL track, who presented his paper on



“Linguistic Imperialism.” After a brief introduction to imperialism he demonstrated how linguistic imperialism operates in many spheres, and its role in spreading English “as a world language.” He ended his presentation explaining whether English is a “Lingua Franca” or not.

The second presenter- Minaal Nauman Choudhury, of the Creative Writing track, gave an intriguing lecture based on her paper titled “Sari Shwadeshi- a Postcolonial Perspective.” Minal started her argument tracing the 5000 year old history that reveals the origin of saree as a long piece of cloth, and went ahead to explain how it evolved and became a South Asian cultural and ethnic phenomenon during this long span of time.





Sirajum Monira Joti, the third presenter from Linguistics track, showcased her project titled “World Englishes in Periphery Classrooms: Reflection on Suresh Canagarajah’s Concerns.” She first explained the chapter which includes Canagarajah’s concerns regarding the global pedagogical tools used in different regions of the world in terms of teaching

English language and how. Moreover, she discussed if the teaching methods and pedagogical paradigms developed in the context of the West are really suitable for developing countries such as Bangladesh, and if not then what other strategies can be adapted for successful learning.

The paper titled “Transnational Turn in Literature” was presented by the fourth presenter of the seminar, Md. Jalal Uddin, a student of Literature and Cultural Studies. After a brief introduction, he explained how transnational literature evolved from national literature and world literature. He finished his presentation by reflecting on a few thematic turns that are commonly found in transnational literature such as “Disentanglement,” “Fluidity,” “Transnational Crime” etc. Moreover, he also added that transnational literature not only entertains us, but it also offers us valuable insights regarding the ongoing grave socio-political issues around the world.



The final presenter of the seminar, Zannat-E-Noor a student of Creative Writing, presented on the works of two renowned feminist poets, Adrienne Rich and Gertrude Stein. After giving a brief introduction regarding each of the poets and their works, she went on to discuss how both of them have used poetry as a means of self-expression, though their approach towards poetry greatly varied from each other. Her presentation included a beautiful recitation of Adrienne Rich’s “Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers,” and Gertrude Stein’s “If I Told Him, A Completed Portrait of Picasso.”

The program came to an end after a brief yet compelling question and answer session where the participants of the program asked various questions to the presenters, which was followed by a concluding remark from Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department of English and Humanities. The seminar was organized by one of the distinguished faculties of ULAB, Dr. Sohana Manzoor, and it was hosted by Neha Ghose who is a graduate student of Literature and Cultural Studies track.

Event 9: Workshop on Strategies for Research and Writing



The Department of English and Humanities at University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a workshop on 'Strategies for Research and Academic Writing'; this virtual workshop was held on August 28, 2021. The facilitator of the event is Arifa Rahman who is associate professor of English and Humanities, (DEH). She mainly focused on students to enrich their research and academic writing ability.

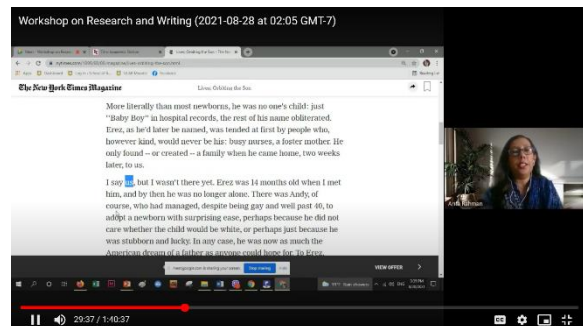
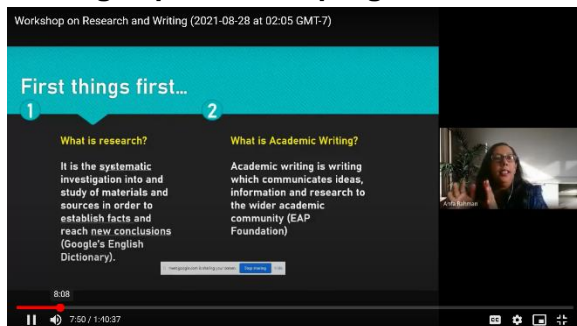
The Department Head of English and Humanities, Arifa Rahman said, the writing part has to come before the research because we actually have to learn how to write before going to a more advanced level of research. And the research and academic writing have to be coherence and harmony..

Brainstorming is necessary prior to starting any research and academic writing. Basically, the whole process of research is very systematic, students need to go in a systematic and organized way. The purpose of research has to establish facts and have to reach new conclusions - she added. For the convenience of participants, she demonstrated a magazine "Orbiting Son" from The New York Time magazine to make students understand the writing process.

On the other part of the research she discussed academic writing and the formal and informal writing variety. Rahman, emphasizes more on the formal writing process. One of the most significant things, before writing anything, students ought to know about a specific audience for the academic community which means your teachers or your peers, she stated. At the end of the event the department head demonstrated some do's and don'ts of research and academic writing for the passionate participants.

Event Report by: Asifur Rahman (201013065)

Some glimpses of the program:



Event 10: International Conference: Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces



The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held a three-day International Conference on “Entangled Englishes in Translocal Spaces” from September 2-4, 2021. The conference was organized by the Center for Language Studies (CLS) and the Department of English and Humanities, ULAB.



Honorable Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Dr. Dipu Moni, MP, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Chairman of the University Grants



Commission of Bangladesh (UGC), Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, and Kazi Nabil Ahmed, MP, Member, Board of Trustees, ULAB, were present as the Special Guests.

The Keynote Speaker of the conference was Distinguished Professor Alastair Pennycook, Professor Emeritus at the University of Technology Sydney and Research Professor at the MultiLing Centre at the University of Oslo. Through an insightful discussion, the keynote speaker expressed that Englishes are entangled with social, political, cultural, and material realities of individual and collective lives and attain meanings by historical precedents, and with reference to multisensory, multimodal and multilingual resources available in different times and spaces. Professor Pennycook specified that English needs to be delinked from its embeddedness as linguistic object and neoliberal subject. This implies materialist and decolonial activism, research and pedagogy that aim both to decolonize and provincialize English.



The three-day International Conference also showcased three roundtable discussions, five plenary sessions, a poetry recitation session, and a panel discussion by renowned academics, scholars, and

researchers from home and abroad. These sessions included discussions on disentanglement from the hegemony of English(es) and its localized power politics; creation of new languages and performing new identities; how nationalism turns out to be a site of class struggle as well as a site of unequal production relations and power relations involving ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities in Bangladesh today; English in early and late colonial Bangladesh; and SDG-based impact ranking of higher education and the role of English-perspective from Bangladesh.



The conference was convened by Professor Shamsad Mortuza, PhD, Vice Chancellor (Acting), ULAB, and Professor Shaila Sultana, PhD, Advisor, Center for Language Studies, ULAB and Professor, Department of English Language, Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka. The Conference Committee was led by Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of Department of

English and Humanities (DEH), ULAB.

This interdisciplinary Conference included papers, panels, and posters on Englishes and demonstrated their roles in the society with reference to sociology, history, political science, anthropology, education, culture and media studies, critical geography, and linguistics and literature. Showing how the English language is borrowed, relocalised, and enriched with new meanings in different postcolonial contexts, the panelists, paper presenters, and discussants unraveled the dynamic ways different kinds of linguistic and non-linguistic repertoires and semiotic signs are exploited, produced, organized, and owned by speakers and authors in everyday communicative events and World Literature respectively.

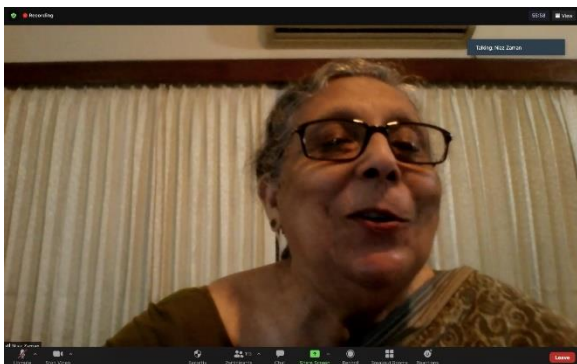
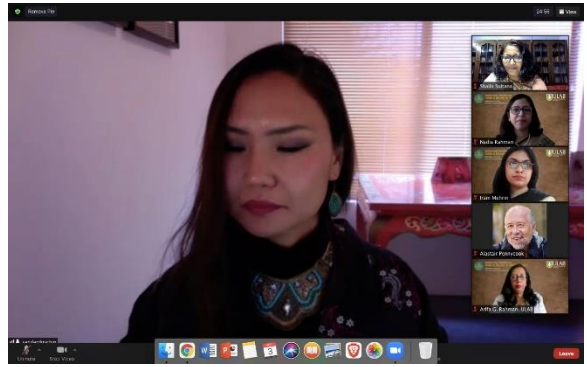


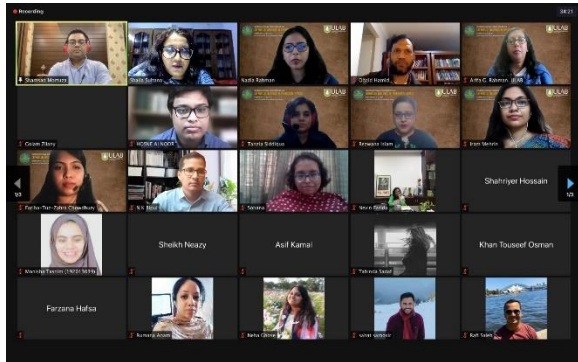
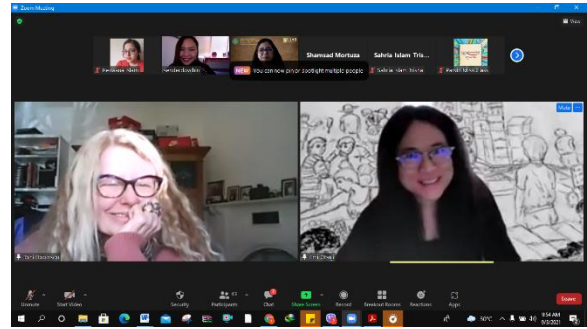
Scholars, researchers, and professionals from ten countries, including Bangladesh, showed how Englishes may introduce new forms of ideologies, prejudices, racism, and social segregation and marginalization in communities. They also contributed to advancing and interchanging ideas about critical language awareness for social justice and equality. Most importantly, illustrating the commonly found disjuncture between academic research, policy-making, and practices, the Conference has drawn attention of the Government, policy-makers and different stakeholders at grassroots level.

The closing ceremony included speeches by Chief Guest Ms. Sharlina Hussain-Morgan, Acting Cultural Affairs Officer, US Embassy Dhaka, Bangladesh, and Special Guest Prof. Imran Rahman, Special Advisor, Board of Trustees, ULAB, along with a vote of thanks by Professor Shaila Sultana. The three-day international conference held online ended with a mesmerizing cultural show presented by the students of Department of English and Humanities (DEH), ULAB.

The keynote speech, plenaries, roundtable discussions, and the panel discussion are available at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiWD6sBSXcOQVZAidTYINRxGnXX8ChAXR>.

Some glimpses of the program:



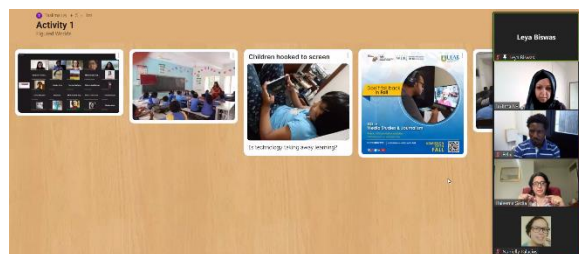


Event 11: DEH Webinar: “Technology as a Cultural Artefact: The Figured World of Educational Technology in Higher Education”



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized a talk on September 9, 2021 titled “Technology as a Cultural Artefact: The Figured World of Educational Technology in Higher Education.” The speakers were Dr. Taslima Ivy, Dr. Haleema Sadia, and Mr. Felix Kwihangana, Senior Tutors at Manchester Institute of Education, University of Manchester, UK. The aim of the talk was to briefly introduce Holland et al.’s (1998) theory of identity and agency in cultural worlds. The speakers showed how technology, when conceptualized as a cultural artefact, can help make sense of the complex dynamics of technology use in particular learning contexts.

The presentation was an interactive one. Dr. Taslima Ivy introduced the participants to the idea of overlapping implementation of technology, rather than the linear approach. She emphasized on the need to have a sociological perspective on the usage of technology. She also introduced the mechanisms of the theory: the figured world, positioning, authoring, and world making. The mechanisms were then explained by Dr. Haleema Sadia who had the audience participate in an activity. She explained the influential hierarchies with relevant real-life examples of socially constructed settings. Mr. Felix Kwihangana then explained how technology is mediating the world around us. He also explained that, because of technology, teachers have changed how they interact with students, bringing in new ways of teaching. Participants formed an understanding of the use of technology in their own figured worlds, and how this relates (or not) to their identities and agency.



The presentation was followed by an animated discussion and Q/A with audience members. Prof. Shamsad Mortuza, Acting Vice Chancellor and Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, also shared his views regarding the new ways of authority and authorship, agencies and equities about the classroom usage of technology.

The event began with a welcoming speech by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of the Department, where she noted the importance of the topic. The session was hosted by Dr Syeda Farzana Sultana. Faculty and students of ULAB and several other institutions made up the audience members.

Event 12: DEH 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, 16 September 2021 | 10:30 - 11:30 AM

On September 16, 2021, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at ULAB offered a skill-building workshop for students titled "Interview Skills." The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor of DEH, who shared vital strategies and tips for tackling interviews. The workshop facilitator began with a short background of her extensive experience in working in different key administrative roles within the university. Thus, she had been on many interview boards and had an opportunity to observe students during interviews. The speaker remarked that many attendees of this workshop would have concerns about preparing for an interview, including knowing how to word their thoughts within an

interview setting better.

One of the key topics the workshop focused on was conducting background research into the institute or company one wants to work in. Moreover, Ms. Rahman emphasized on highlighting one's strengths. Throughout the workshop, she analyzed the various ways one can generate the interviewer's interest in them. The workshop also stressed on learning about the requirements for the job prior to attending interviews, such as preparing a demo or presentation for a teaching position. The workshop also included tips on how to prepare for the day of the interview, from ensuring timely arrival at the interview to maintaining proper body language before the interviewer. During the session, participants were asked to respond to an unfamiliar/unconventional question posed by Ms. Rahman, after which they were provided with a tips on how to handle such a situation.



The facilitator also provided advice for interviews to enter Cultural Exchange Programs. Ms. Rahman stressed that the topic of culture was vital for such programs. Hence, to model one's answers in an interview, applicants must know about their own culture in addition to learning about the culture they are going to.

The workshop explored various elements of interview skill-building in-depth. It concluded with an enthusiastic discussion as the facilitator provided further input in the form of answers, advice, and encouragement for the students who attended from different departments of ULAB.

Reported by By Monisha Tasnim (192013039)

Event 13: DEH Webinar on “Design-based Research: Bridging Research and Practice”



Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF AL-QADISIYA

**Design-Based Research:
Bridging Research and Practice**

Abstract
Design-Based Research (DBR) "is a systematic but flexible methodology aimed to improve educational practices through iterative analysis, design, development, and implementation, based on collaboration among researchers and practitioners in real-world settings, and leading to contextually-sensitive design principles and theories" (Wang & Hanif, 2005, pp. 4-5). This workshop will take participants through the steps of DBR and discuss how faculty members and practitioners can integrate DBR into their research and practice.

16 September 2021 | 7:00 PM

Muhammad Shams Ud Doha
PhD Scholar, Purdue University

About the Facilitator
Muhammad Shams Ud Doha is currently pursuing his PhD in Learning, Design and Technology at Purdue University, USA. He is also the recipient of the prestigious Andrew's fellowship at Purdue. He has worked as an Instructional Designer for Purdue Repository for Online Teaching and Learning (PoRTAL) and the ParaImpact Project at Purdue University. He currently serves as President of the Purdue Association of Learning Design & Technology (PALDT), a student association within the Learning Design and Technology Program. Prior to his joining Purdue, he taught English at Brac University in Bangladesh. He was also awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to teach at Indiana University, Bloomington, USA during the 2016-17 academic year. His specific research interests are in the learning environment, social media in education, and mobile learning. Shams is also a writer and chess player. He has written and edited five books, written about nine plays and drama serials for Bangladeshi television, and achieved an international rating in chess.

The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized a webinar on September 16, 2021, with guest speaker Muhammad Shams Ud Doha, a PhD scholar in Learning Design and Technology at Purdue University. The webinar covered various topics to help participants understand Design-based Research or DBR, and how academic research should be focused around practical and real-life implications.

The speaker was introduced by the emcee, Dr. Syeda Farzana Sultana. Muhammad Shams Ud Doha is the recipient of Purdue's prestigious Andrews Fellowship. He has worked as an Instructional Designer for Purdue Repository for Online Teaching and Learning (PoRTAL) and the Para-impact Project at Purdue University. He currently serves as President of the Purdue Association of Learning Design & Technology (PALDT), a student association within the Learning Design and Technology Program.

Doha introduced the audience to the definition of Design-based Research and detailed numerous aspects of the concept. He began with a discussion of the various frameworks, characteristics, and of DBR. Next, he illustrated the principles and challenges of DBR. Some examples of DBR were discussed after which a group activity was given to the participants who were assigned to breakout rooms to identify a real-world problem that needs solving. The teams in each breakout room were asked to apply their knowledge of DBR firsthand and come up with an action plan. After a set amount of time, each team presented the results of their short discussions on unique problems.

The session ended with most participants actively conversing about the implications and challenges of DBR. Several faculty members of ULAB, including Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. Shamsad Mortuza, took part in the discourse. Dr. Sultana, Assistant Professor of DEH, drew the webinar to a close with high hopes for the future of DBR and its possibilities.

The webinar audience comprised students and faculty members of ULAB as well as participants from different institutions.

Event 14: DEH Summer 2021 Commencement: 'Soar High...'



The Department of English and Humanities held the Commencement Program for Summer 2021 on October 7, 2021 to wish the outgoing students of Department of English and Humanities from BA and MA programs a “fare forward.” The event started with the opening speech from Professor Kaiser Haq and Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam who conveyed their best wishes and wise words to the graduating students and provided valuable advice to them regarding their future. The Acting Vice Chancellor of ULAB, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, delivered his speech to encourage the students to broaden their horizons and visit the ULAB family at any time.

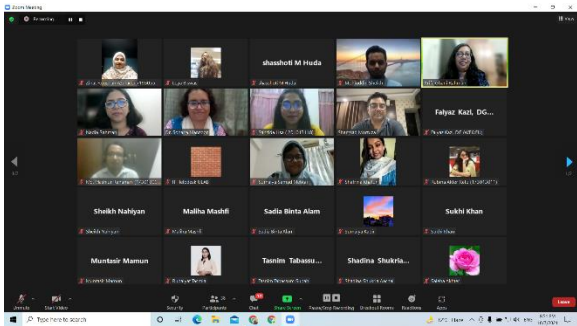
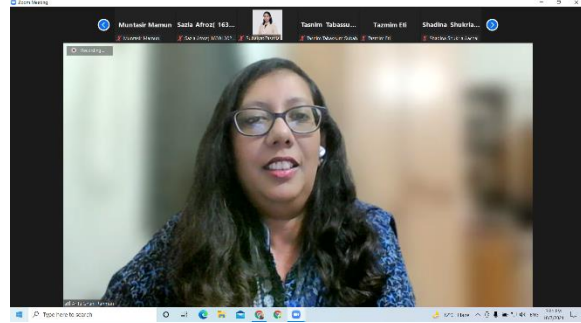
The Head of the Department of English and Humanities, Arifa Rahman, welcomed the commencement speaker, Mr. Faiyaz Murshid Kazi (Director General, West Europe and EU Wing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs) who inspired the students to value their learning and training, which they can implement to serve people and make an impact. He also shared his gratitude towards the respected senior professors who were his mentors at university.



The cultural event started with a recitation by Humaira Mehnaz, followed by a song performance by Azizul Islam Tuhin, a dance performance by Rhyma Rahman Heya, speech by Mashiur Rahaman (BA outgoing student of 173), poetry recitation by Zannat-E-Nur, speech by outgoing MA student Salwah Chowdhury, and a song by Md. Maruf Hossain Avoy. After that, the keepsake brochure was shared through a video which made all the students become emotional and feel connected. The outgoing students shared their experiences at DEH and ULAB and expressed how they felt a sense of belonging and gratitude towards the DEH family. Towards the end of the program, the HoD, Arifa Rahman, thanked the guest, and everyone who was involved in organizing the program.

Some glimpses of the program:







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