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20th QAC meeting via Google Meet

Photo: IQAC-ULAB

# 20th QAC Meeting Held

ULAB's Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) held its 20th Meeting on 27 February 2024 through Online Google Meet at 4.00 pm. Vice Chancellor Professor Imran Rahman presided over the meeting. Pro Vice Chancellor and IQAC Director Professor Dr. Jude William R. Genilo discussed various agenda items. These included: welcome to UGC Representative Dr. Serajul Islam Prodhan; approval of the minutes of the 19th meeting; business arising out

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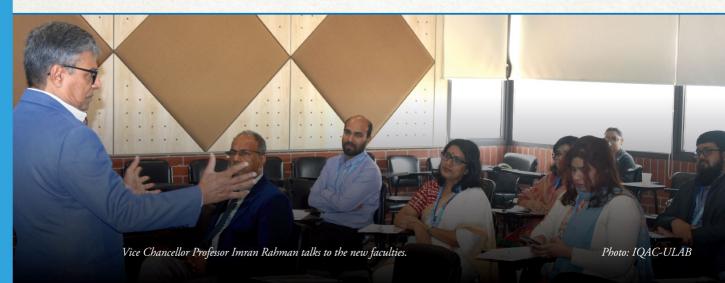
## **CETL-ULAB Hosts**

## Spring 2024 New Faculty Orientation

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) organized a comprehensive orientation program for the eleven new faculty members who joined ULAB in Spring Term 2024. The orientation event took place on 1 February. It was marked by a warm welcome from the ULAB's top management.

The event began with the welcome speech from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Imran Rahman, who highlighted

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Faculties and Students at the Futures Studies Seminar.

#### Photo: IQAC-ULAB

# CETL Organized a Seminar on Futures Studies

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) organized an insightful seminar titled "Futures Studies Unveiled: Navigating Day After Tomorrow's Bangladesh and ULAB" on 29 January 2024. The session brought together teachers and students to delve into the evolving landscape of how a future study can be. Shakil Ahmed is a futurist, educator, and storyteller at Ridiculous Futures. He discussed the concept of Futures Studies, which helps understand this field's origins and interdisciplinary nature. He took a deep dive into the question that this field grapples with and how these questions are relevant when considering the futures of Bangladesh and ULAB. He also talked

about the default future, preferred futures, undesirable futures, and our influence and agency over the future. Mr. Ahmed orchestrated the entire seminar by incorporating engaging activities and fostering an environment conducive to active learning. He articulated his vision regarding emerging disciplines of the future. The atmosphere was dynamic, avoiding monotony.

The distinctive feature of CETL ULAB lies in its proactive approach toward the future, reflecting a steadfast commitment to innovative policies and transformative teaching practices. This inclusive stance underscores ULAB's dedication to being at the forefront of educational evolution.



## 20th QAC Meeting Held

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of the minutes; internal audit summary for Summer Term 2023; approval of the IQAC-CETL workplan 2024; and the presentation of the IQAS Report 2023 and Graduate Employability Report 2023. The other attendees to the meeting included Professor Kaiser Mohamed Hamidul Haq, Professor M. Mofazzal Hossain, Professor Shahnaj Husne Jahan, Professor Sarwar Uddin Ahmed, CETL Director Dr. Shazzad Hossain, Registrar Lt Col Md. Foyzul Islam (Retd), IQAC Additional Director Wazir Ahmad and IQAC Assistant Manager Md. Bachu Mia. Ms. Liliping, a consultant researcher, presented the findings of the IQAS Report 2023 and Graduate Employability Report 2023.

## New Faculty Orientation

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the importance of academic rigor and introduced ULAB's vision, mission, and supportive trustee board. Professor Jude William Genilo, the Pro Vice-Chancellor, also conducted an interactive session that focused on the structure of an academic career and the significance of co-creating knowledge. The event concluded with a dialogue between the new faculty members and the management representatives of ULAB.





#### ULAB Quality Assurance Committee

Photo: IQAC-ULAB

## ULAB's QAC Members Reappointed

ULAB Vice Chancellor Prof. Imran Rahman, who serves as QAC chair, reconstituted the composition of the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC). The QAC serves as the advisory body to the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). The appointments are for one year with effect from 1 January 2024. The QAC members are: Prof. Jude William Genilo PhD, Pro Vice Chancellor and Dean, School of Social Sciences and IQAC Director; Mr. Kazi Nabil Ahmed MP, Board of Trustee Representative; Professor Kaiser Mohamed Hamidul Haq PhD, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities; Prof. M. Mofazzal Hossain PhD, Dean, School of Engineering; Prof. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed PhD, Dean, School of Business; Professor Shahnaj Husne Jahan PhD, Senior Academician: Professor Pinki Shah, Senior Academician; Lt. Col Md. Foyzul Islam (Retd); Registrar of ULAB; Dr. Mohammad Shazzad Hossain, Director of Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL); Mr. Md. Roknuzzaman, Director of Finance; and Mr. Wazir A F Ahmad, IQAC Additional Director. Mr. Ahmad will serve as QAC Member-Secretary.

## fLTR Conducted an Active Learning Course for University Teachers

Foundation for Learning, Teaching, and Research (fLTR), in collaboration with the Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning (CETL), proudly concludes the three-day Certificate Course from 22 to 24 February 2024 on "Teaching for Active Learning (TAL-12)." The course aimed to enhance teaching and learning skills, bringing together 27 faculty members from seven universities. The event commenced with a warm welcome and socialization led by Prof. Dr. Qumrul Ahsan, Vice Chancellor, and Prof. Dr. Md. Sultan Mahmud, Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Asia Pacific. Prof Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, former Vice Chancellor of Green University of Bangladesh and Course Director of TAL-12, emphasized the importance of social capital for creating an active learning environment.

### UGC nominates its Representative to ULAB-QAC

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has appointed Dr. Serajul Islam Prodhan, Director of Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Dhaka International University (DIU) as its representative to the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) on 19 December 2023 for a period of three years.

Dr. Md. Serajul Islam Prodhan is a Professor at the Department of Civil Engineering of Dhaka International University (DIU). He completed B. Sc. (Hons) and M. Sc. in Physics from University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. He finished his Ph. D. degree from the Department of Structural Molecular Science, the Graduate University for Advanced Studies, Japan. He used to serve as Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Photo-Molecular Science, Institute of Molecular Science (IMS), Okazaki, Japan. Presently, he works at the Civil Engineering Department, DIU while holding other key responsibilities. Dr. Prodhan was Chairman at the Department of Electrical, Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering (EETE). He was DIU's IQAC Director since July 2015. He has conducted quality culture related activities as a Core Team Resource Person at Quality Assurance Unit, UGC.

Dr. Serajul Islam Prodhan-UGC Representative to QAC-ULAB







Photo: University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

# Private Universities can offer joint PhD degrees with Malaysian Counterparts

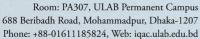
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) Member Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda remarked that the private universities in Bangladesh having permanent certificate can offer PhD degrees jointly with top universities in Malaysia. He made the remark at a meeting held at UGC on 25 May 2023 with a four-member delegation from Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS). Dr. Abdur Razzaq, Chairman of EMGS and the special envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia led the delegation. Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda said that currently private universities do not have the approval to grant PhD degrees. But they are interested in carrying out research works like public universities. The top private universities having permanent certificates may offer joint PhD degrees with Malaysian universities subject to conditions. He expressed optimism that research opportunities will be created through

this initiative. He expressed his interest in signing an agreement with the Malaysian government on the awarding of joint PhD degrees. He urged the delegation to ensure suitable environment for higher education of Bangladeshi students studying in Malaysia and create job opportunities along with studies. Bangladeshi students and other citizens studying in Malaysia should be treated with dignity. Dr. Abdur Razzaq said, Malaysia is trying to promote international standards of higher education. Malaysia has branch campuses of several top-ranking public, private and international university. To maintain the quality of higher education, Malaysia has taken the initiative of offering joint PhD degree along with simplifying the visa process and talent hunt. UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman and Director of Research Support and Publication Division Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam and relevant officials were present at the meeting.

### **Editorial Team**

Chief Editor: Prof. Jude William Genilo, PhD Team: Mohammad Shazzad Hossain, PhD, Wazir AF Ahmad, Bachu Mia







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## BAC Solicits Research Proposals 2024/25

Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC) is inviting research proposals from teachers and researchers working in higher education and research institutions in Bangladesh. The BAC grants for each research proposal is BDT 3,00,000. The subject matter, area, purpose and aim of the research proposal must be aligned with BAC's Research Policy 2022. The proposals must follow a prescribed format, which includes the Project Information, Logical Interpretation, Budget, Completion Plan and Short CV of researcher/s.

## **BAC Seeks Academic Auditors**

The Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC) invites applications from the Quality Assurance (QA) professionals working in the higher educational institutes as academic auditors as part of its preparation for conducting the accreditation activities for higher education institutions and academic programs. To conduct this, BAC is searching academic auditors for external quality assessment of higher education institutes/academic programs. Interested Quality Assurance (QA) professionals were requested to send their details to the BAC. The BAC has also published a manual consisting of academic accreditation application guidelines.