It has been my pleasure to have served as the chair of IEEE BRAC University Student Branch for the year 2017. I would like to thank our counselor, Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad sir for his guidance, my team - the Executive Body members for their relentless support, and each and every IEEE member of our student branch for their participation. All of the events and activities that you see chronicled in this newsletter would not have been possible without them. Volunteering for the IEEE has been a captivating experience - I have had the opportunity to grow and learn in ways that I could not have ever imagined. Therefore, I would highly encourage all student members to get involved with our student branch and the IEEE Bangladesh Section to truly reap the benefits of their membership. I would also like to convey my best wishes to the 2018 Executive Student body and all future IEEE members of our student branch all the best.

IEEE BRAC University Student General Body Meeting 2017

On the 3rd of April, IEEE BRAC University Student Branch held its first General Body Meeting at 5 pm. The executive body members of 2016 were warmly congratulated and appreciated for all their work through certificates and crests. The Vice-Chair, Fairoz Zafar, General Secretary, Md. Nasimuzzaman Mishuk, and Editor, Anika Iqbal of Executive Body 2016 shared their memories and experiences, which definitely inspired everyone in the room. Aldrin Nippon Bobby, respected Lecturer of EEE, BRAC University was gracious enough to lead the entire session and enlightened us with his knowledge. The attendees were encouraged to share their ideas about what they were expecting in the upcoming year. Token of appreciation were also presented to the winners of the previous year, such as Technical Article Writing Competition 2016. Overall, the event turned out to be a great success!
IEEE Campaign 2017

IEEE BRAC University Student Branch organized IEEE Campaign 2017 on the 5th and 6th of February 2017 from 9:30 am to 2 pm to promote new memberships and the renewal of the previous ones. The Executive Body members of 2017 put their heart and soul to make this event a success and were overwhelmed with the sign ups in these two days of promotion. The booth was set up at the Building 3 cafeteria and was accompanied with a slide presentation of the activities of IEEE BRAC University Student Branch in its previous years, allowing new members to envision the benefits and facilities they can avail with this endeavor. This has been the highest number of members recruited till now in the BRACU SB within the first half of the year!

Talk On Bio- Inspired Nanophotonics

IEEE BRAC University Student Branch organized Talk on Bio-inspired Nano Photonics on the 22nd of January 2017, Sunday. The event took place at the GDLX Center at BRAC University from 3:30 pm till 5:00 pm. The speaker, Dr. Siddique is working as a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Medical Engineering at California Institute of Technology (Caltech), USA since April 2016. He received his PhD (summa cum laude) in 2016 from Helmholtz Institute of Microstructure Technology at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany in the field of bio-inspired nanophotonics, in France. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Mosaddeq, Professor of the Department of EEE, BRAC University and faculty members of the department joined the session with enthusiasm. Dr. Radwanul Siddique made acute interpretations of biological nanophotonic surfaces from an engineer’s perspective that lead to the derivation of new bio-inspired construction principles. Taking butterflies as 'blueprints', this talk covered few examples of novel physical principles underlying the structural coloration, and included a discussion regarding possible fabrication solutions for diverse optical applications.

Talk On Embedded Systems

IEEE BRAC University Student Branch organized Talk on Embedded Electronics: Micro-controllers, FPGAs and Power Electronics on the 17th of January 2017, Tuesday with Syed Talmid, an electrical and computer engineering undergraduate senior and researcher at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Due to his extensive knowledge in this area, along with being a teaching assistant in this course at his university, he was able to provide perfect explanations with diagrams and illustrations of micro-controllers, along with discussing about its uses and future research opportunities. To facilitate easier instruction in micro-controllers and power electronics, he hosts articles and tutorials on his website. Moreover, new concept of FPGA (Field Programmable Gate Array) was introduced to the students and it was perceived with interesting questions by the students. For better comprehension of the attendees, technical explanations were provided and the example of smart watch was brought in for students to be able to relate. Discussion about Proteus VSM, LT spice was introduced also, which are used for different kinds of stimulation purposes.

IEEE Xtreme Programming Competition 2017

On the 14th of October 2017, Saturday, IEEE BRACU SB took part in IEEE XTREME Programming Contest for the first time in two teams. It was a very new experience for the participants along with the branch. Students from the Departments of EEE and CSE were active members during the day with supporting organizers from the SB. The contestants had strong brainstorming sessions with each other and got a real sense of competition with other participants throughout the world. The contest is designed in a series of questions from the field of computer science and programming, which led them to explore a variety of options, in terms of languages and critical thinking abilities. Refreshments were provided during lunch time and we hope that in the following years, the branch would be able to attract more people to sign up and be a part of this huge platform.
This year BRAC University hosted IEEE Day on November 2nd bringing its student branch members together to memorialize this historical day with the theme of “Leveraging Technology for a Better Tomorrow”. The event was attended by Dr. Shahidul Islam Khan, Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Mohammad Zakaria Haider, System Engineer at Gramenephone Ltd, and Md. Anamul Hoque, Lecturer at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. Dr. Shahidul Islam Khan was the Founder Chair and former Chair of IEEE Bangladesh Section, former Chair of Power and Energy Society, IEEE Bangladesh Section, Editorial Board Member of IEEE Access and senior member of IEEE. Through his speech, he conveyed his desire to make IEEE BRACU Student Branch a much more active community and promised to bring exciting opportunities for the members via IEEE which would greatly benefit them as aspiring engineers. Mohammad Zakaria Haider, who is also a Humanitarian Technology Coordinator of IEEE Bangladesh Section, expressed his hope to work with IEEE BRACU Student Branch and his wish to connect it with Gramenephone Ltd to help create more prospects for the students. Thereafter, those present rallied around BRAC University with an IEEE Day banner as a means of showcasing their pride and simultaneously drawing attention and awareness to this day to educate the uninformed.

On the 23rd of November IEEE, BRACU Student Branch held a seminar on Prospects Of Higher Studies For BRACU Students. The seminar was a chance for the students who wanted to pursue a Masters Degree or a Ph.D. after graduation gain vital information about applying to universities abroad. The speakers for the seminar were the respected faculty members of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, namely Dr. Md. Hasanuzzaman Sagar, Md. Anamul Hoque, and Md. Farhan Tasnim Oshim. Dr. Md. Hasanuzzaman Sagar completed his Bachelor of Engineering degree in 2010 in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Queen Mary University of London. He obtained his Ph.D. in EEE from the University of Greenwich, the UK in 2015. Md. Anamul Hoque pursued his master’s degree in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology offered by Erasmus Mundus Scholarship Commission from The Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium and Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden with ‘magna cum laude’. Later, he availed an opportunity to work in Walter Schottky Institute at the Technical University of Munich, Germany funded by Nanosystem Initiative Munich. Md. Farhan Tasnim Oshim completed his Masters in Communications Engineering in 2015 from RWTH-Aachen University, Germany, which is a member of TU9 and IDEA league Europe. Together, they talked about their experiences studying in foreign countries and dealt with the students’ questions regarding the matter.

The IEEE Bangladesh Section Student– Young Professionals– Women In Engineering Congress is among the most awaited and the largest annual event of IEEE Bangladesh Section. This year the Congress was hosted by North South University on the 1st of December, and BRAC University took active participation. It was a day-long event, which started at 7 am and ended at 9 pm. The Congress, as the name suggests, was attended by YP members, WIE members and all categories of IEEE members. After a warm welcome from the hosts, the Congress started with a video message from the president of IEEE, Karen Barilleson. Throughout the day the attendees were treated to keynote speeches, technical sessions, interactive quizzes, engineering philosophies, talks on Humanitarian Robotics and current research trends in Bangladesh by the most notable names of IEEE Bangladesh Section. Most of the sessions held were interactive and the speakers encouraged participation and remarks from the audience members, dealing with their questions and helping them to gain a better understanding. The event also hosted a Poster Making Competition where every university submitted a poster showcasing their events and activities throughout the year. The Congress ended with a cultural session put on by the students of North South University and the Award Giving Ceremony.
A Note From The Branch Counselor,
Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad

IEEE BRACU SB has been an active and dynamic branch, organizing various educational and motivating events, seminars, technical tours and workshops since 2008. Our aim is to inspire students to participate in events occurring both locally and internationally. This diversifies their knowledge and understanding of a particular subject. I have been serving as Counselor of IEEE BRACU SB since its foundation in 2008 and also serving IEEE BDS as “Educational Activity Coordinator” from 2013. Like previous years, this year has been witness to some exhilarating and successful activities from IEEE BRAC University Student Branch 2017. I would like to congratulate the whole team on their diligent work and determination. I have hope that the next year will be even more industrious and enjoyable in terms of activities and will bring us further appraisal and much more. I am honored to be able to present you all with the fifth issue of IEEE BRAC University Student Branch’s very own Newsletter! Enjoy.

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The IEEE Bangladesh section is the local branch of IEEE, New Jersey, USA. The IEEE headquarter in New Jersey approved the Bangladesh Section on 20th November 1993 and the GEO code is Ro00073. From only 54 founding members, IEEE Bangladesh Section has now grown to a family of over 2500 members. It has become one of the most active sections not only in Region 10 but also all over the world, which is proved by numerous accolades and recognition. IEEE BRACU Student Branch is a part of this section, established in 2008. Like the Bangladesh Section, IEEE BRACU SB is also vibrant and dynamic. Arranging and participating in various congresses, conferences, seminars, competitions and other events, it is an ever-growing student branch.

From The Editor
I am extremely grateful to Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad sir for this opportunity to serve as the Technological Editor of IEEE BRACU SB Executive Body 2017. Throughout the year, we have tried to provide exposure to various kinds of branch activities for recruiting more and more members. Newsletter 2017 covers all the aspects of a successful year at our branch and I hope in the upcoming years, this family would be extended more with strong leadership. I wish the branch all the success and prosperity for the upcoming years.