March 3rd witnessed the first General Body Meeting of the year 2019 in UB70304. The hard-working and tenacious Executive Body of the year launched Prologue 1.0; the first official meet and greet of the old, current and new faces of the IEEE community of BRAC University. The commencement inaugurated with the screening of an aesthetic film compilation of IEEE event experiences of Professor Shahidul Islam Khan, Chairperson of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

20th of January 2019 started with the IEEE Student body’s advent of recruiting fresh cohorts for the year’s activities in the ground floor of UB6 of BRAC University’s Mohakhali Campus. The campaign ran for three days and came to a fruitful end on the 22nd of January. The primary motive of the campaign was to sign up fresh faces for IEEE student membership and renew the membership of existing members. The secondary objective was to motivate more students to join the PES (Power and Energy Society) that was initiated by the IEEE student body last year and get new members to initiate CS (Computer Society) that is about to be initiated by the IEEE student body this year. The campaign ended with immense success as a record number of 174 members signed up for IEEE membership; including 30 PES and 40 CS recruits.

Seminar on Higher Education took place on the 19th floor of UB2 in BRAC University. The seminar was conducted by Abu S.M Mohsin who is an assistant professor of BRAC University, Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department and has a Ph.d in Nano-Bio-Photonics from the Swinburne University of Technology, Australia. To read more about this seminar visit our website http://ieeebracu.com/seminar-on-higher-education-prospects-of-scholarship-and-immigration-in-australia/
International Conference on Energy and Power Engineering (ICEPE) 2019

International Conference on Energy and Power Engineering (ICEPE) 2019, which was jointly organized by the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) of Brac University, IEEE Brac University Student Branch and IEEE Brac University Power and Energy Society with Technical Co-sponsor IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES), was a three day long conference which started on 14th March 2019 and ended on 16th March 2019. The conference took place at Brac CDM, Savar, Dhaka. Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, Energy Advisor to the Prime Minister, inaugurated the conference as a chief guest. Professor Saffur Rahman, President of IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES), talked about the importance and the demand of research papers in this sector which is increasing by the day. To read more visit http://ieeebracu.com/icepe-2019/

Operation and Maintenance of Power Plant Engineering of Bangladesh

On March 20th 2019, the Power and Energy Society of Brac University in collaboration with the IEEE Student Branch of Brac University organized a seminar on ‘Operation and Maintenance of Power Plant’. The entire session had been conducted by Mr. Robiul Islam, a Bracu Alumni who is currently working as a Sub-divisional Engineer at DPDC. Mr. Islam encouraged the participants to not to limit their dreams when pursuing a job in the power sector of Bangladesh. To read more about this seminar visit our website http://ieeebracu.com/operation-and-maintenance-of-power-plant-engineering-of-bangladesh/

An Industrial Tour to the Orion Power Plant

On the 23rd March, IEEE Brac University Student Branch in collaboration with the Power and Energy Society of Brac University Organized 2019’s very first Industrial Tour. This tour took place on the Orion Power Meghnahat Ltd. During this industrial tour students were taken to see the inside of a HFO based Power Plant producing 100 MW power with 12 Wartsila diesel engines, SF6 circuit breaker, 132KV substation which contained three 11KV/132KV transformers. On top of that they got to visit the Switch Gear Control room and at the same time learned how to work for the protection of a power plant. To read more about this visit our website http://ieeebracu.com/an-industrial-tour-to-the-orion-power-plant/

Publishing a paper: The Art of Scientific Writing

“Publishing a paper : The Art of Scientific Writing” took place on 24th March of 2019 in the Indoor Games room of Brac University, Mohakhali Campus. The seminar was arranged by the IEEE student. The key speaker of the event was Dr. Md Mosaddequr Rahman of EEE department of Brac University. Dr. Rahman did his undergraduate studies from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Masters and PhD from Nagoya Institute of Technology (NIT), Japan and has published numerous scientific research papers throughout his academic life. To read more visit our website http://ieeebracu.com/publishing-a-paper-the-art-of-scientific-writing/

PES Day

The Power and Energy Society of Brac University, in association with the IEEE Brac University Student Branch, celebrated their very 1st PES day on 24th April. The Power and Energy Society of IEEE celebrates the PES day all around the globe throughout the month of April, in that context and to make a mark on the world of IEEE, the PES student body(SB) of Brac University along with the IEEE SB of Brac University designed the day to make it festive and memorable. To read more about PES Day 2019 visit our website http://ieeebracu.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/PES-Inauguration-Report.pdf

Student Membership Recruitment Campaign For Summer 2019

The IEEE student branch of BRAC University initiated their recruitment session for the semester of Summer 2019 on the ground floor of the university’s 6th building on the 19th of May 2019. The campaign ran its successful course for two days ending just the next day with a satisfactory amount of fresh recruits. The response from the students was immense and within two days all of the objectives of the IEEE student branch of BRAC University were fulfilled. The primary goal of this campaign was to invite new students to be a member of IEEE and also for existing members to renew their student membership.

CS Inaugural

The inauguration of IEEE BRACU SB Computer Society took place on 10th June 2019. The IEEE Student Branch of BRAC University initiated their computer society with a total of 55 students. IEEE Brac University Computer Society was then officially inaugurated by Dr Mohammad Kaykobad by displaying the newly made CS section on the IEEE Brac University official website and cutting a cake as a token of celebration. To read more visit http://ieeebracu.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/BRACU-CS-CHAPTER-INAUGURAL-REPORT.pdf

Campaign For Summer 2019

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**Peer to Peer Energy Trading in Bangladesh: Prospects & Challenges**

A technical seminar was organized by IEEE PES BracU Student Branch Chapter in collaboration with IEEE BracU Student Branch on 11th June 2019, in the name of ‘Peer to Peer Energy Trading in Bangladesh: Prospects & Challenges’. The technical talk was conducted by Mr. Hannes Kirchhoff, Chief Technical Officer at Solshare. The main objective of this seminar was to let everyone know about the technology of sharing electricity. The idea of this system is interconnecting solar homes and one can earn money from the excess electricity by providing to those who are not capable of installing a solar system or those who cannot afford electricity.

**Tour at Civil Aviation Radar Station & Control Tower By IEEE Brac University Student Branch**

The most exciting visit for the IEEE members of Brac University Student Branch for this year has been the visit at the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) which was on 20th of July 2019. The visit consisted of having a close look up at the radar station and control tower of the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. The tour was organized by IEEE Brac University Student Branch with the generous co-operation of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh. To read more visit [http://ieeebracu.com/tour-at-civil-aviation-radar-station-control-tower-by-ieee-brac-university-student-branch/](http://ieeebracu.com/tour-at-civil-aviation-radar-station-control-tower-by-ieee-brac-university-student-branch/)

**Tournatech 2019**

Tournatech is the first rendition of IEEE Brac University’s flagship event- an intra-university competition. The event held in 25 July 2019 & consisted of a project competition, poster competition and problem-based idea competition. There were a total of 13 teams under project showcasing, 6 teams under poster competition and 7 teams under problem based idea competition; altogether 75 participants. The event witnessed Pro Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Mohammad Tamim, along with the chairperson of CSE, Dr. Md Abdul Mottalib, Dr. Md. Motaharul Islam, Dr.Jia Uddin, and Dr. Md. Mosaddequr Rahman from EEE department. Then Dr. Mohammad Tamim gave a speech motivating the students by telling them about the changes brought into the world by technology and what technical support will be needed in future. After the encouraging speech, the respected faculties and Dr. Tamim went around the tables where each team showcased their hardware/software projects. The judges for this session was Dr. Md. Motaharul Islam, Dr. Jia Uddin and Dr. Md. Ashrafual Alam and from CSE department and Dr. Md. Mosaddequr Rahman and Dr. Sairuf Rahman Sabuj and from EEE department. To read more about Tournatech 2019 visit our website [http://ieeebracu.com/tournatech-2019/](http://ieeebracu.com/tournatech-2019/)

**IEEE Bangladesh Section SYWMC 2019**

On 25th December, IEEE Bangladesh Section organized the SYWMC 2019, Award Giving Ceremony and Annual Dinner at GP House, Baridhara. Four IEEE student members from Brac University attended this beautiful event. It was a daylong event from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm, which provided insights on the contributions and projects done or being done by different student chapters and also acknowledged the individuals and student branches with most impactful contributions. After all the sessions, the annual dinner was held. Students and teachers from almost 40 student branches were present.

**International Workshop On Computer Vision And Intelligent Systems (IWCVIS) 2019**

Brac University Computer Vision and Intelligent Systems (CVIS) lab together with IEEE Brac University Student Branch and IEEE Computer Society Bangladesh Chapter organized an International Workshop on Computer Vision and Intelligent Systems-2010 (IWCVIS2019) on December 26, 2019 at Brac University premises. The program was divided into four segments: the inaugural session, lecture session, poster paper presentation and panel discussion session. To read more visit [http://ieeebracu.com/international-workshop-on-computer-vision-and-intelligent-systems-iwcvis-2019/](http://ieeebracu.com/international-workshop-on-computer-vision-and-intelligent-systems-iwcvis-2019/)
Winter Clothes Distribution

Like every year, the IEEE Brac University Student Branch raised funds from the general members and bought warm clothes for the deprived people on the streets. Approximately Tk. 11500 was raised and with that, blankets and warm clothes were bought in bulk for donation. On the 28th of December 2019, from 12AM till 4AM in the morning, the students scoured the streets in search for those who had no clothes at all to protect themselves from the harsh winter and distributed the clothes to them.

Words from the Counselor

IEEE BRACU Student Branch has been inspiring and networking students of the School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS) with peers across the globe through organizing exciting events, seminars, workshops, conferences and competitions etc. since its inception in 2008.

This year has been incrementally special for the student branch because of the inaugural of “IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) BRACU Student Branch Chapter” on 7th October of 2018 and IEEE Computer Society (PS) BRACU Student Branch Chapter* on 9th April of 2019. The highlight of this year was the Satellite Mission Idea Contest 2019, an inter-university paper writing competition on satellites which was the first of its kind in Bangladesh under the 4th BIRDS International Workshop (4BIW) 2019 at Brac University. This newsletter provides a glimpse of all the other accomplishments that we’ve gained throughout the year. I take great pride in congratulating the entire team for their sincere efforts and some extremely successful outcomes.

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4th Birds International Workshop

The 4th session of the BIRDS International Workshop (4BIW) was held from November 25 to 28, 2019, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. This annual international event of BIRDS Network was organized jointly by the Brac University, Bangladesh in cooperation with Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan & Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Aviation and Aerospace University, Bangladesh. The BIW has become the most important international and interdisciplinary workshop aims to create the path for collaboration and enables the sustainability of the BIRDS community in the field of space engineering. The venue for the inauguration program was Pan Pacific Sonargaon, 107 Kazi Nazrul Islam Ave, Dhaka 1215, Bangladesh, and for other programs, the venue was be the BRAC Centre Inn, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The Inauguration: The Inauguration of the event took place on November 25 at the Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The event commenced with a welcoming speech from Professor Arshad M. Chowdhury, Dean, School of Engineering and Computer Sciences, Brac University followed by keynote speeches from Air Vice-Marshall Ahm Fazlul Haque, Vice-Chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Aviation and Aerospace University (BSMRAAU) and Dr. Mengu Cho, Head, Department of Space Systems Engineering, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan. The event witnessed a unique hand-over of the first flag of Bangladesh that went to space, from the Brac Onnesha, to Professor Vincent Chang, Vice-Chancellor of Brac University. The procession also included speeches from the Chief Guest, Dr. Shahjahan Mahmood, Chairman, Bangladesh Communications Satellite Company Limited (BCSCL), and closing remarks from, once again, Professor Vincent Chang. The inauguration ended with two valuable public lectures from Dr. Arifur R Khan, Assistant Professor from The University of Texas at El Paso and Dr. Mengu Cho, Head of Department of Space Systems Engineering (Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan).

Satellite Mission Idea Contest: The competition was open for students of any educational institution in Bangladesh and it was based on generating new and improved ideas for micro/nano-satellite missions and writing a paper based on these ideas. Forty-three teams from eighteen different institutions of Bangladesh registered for the competition including two school teams and one college team. And multiple workshops took place on relevant inter-disciplinary topics regarding satellites. The Final Round of the Satellite Mission Idea Contest 2019 was held on 26 November, 2019 at Brac Centre Inn, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka 1212. It started off at 10:00 a.m. with the thankful and encouraging words of the Honorable Provost of the University of Texas at El Paso and Dr. Mengu Cho, Head of Department of Space Systems Engineering (Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan).

The winning team of the Satellite Mission Idea Contest 2019 is team Ulysses from University of Dhaka and Jahangirnagar University. The first-runner up team is Oscillation from Brac University and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. The second runner up team is Sentinel from Brac University. The winner, the first runner-up and the second runner-up teams were awarded prize money of fifteen thousand BDT, twelve thousand BDT and ten thousand BDT respectively. The rest of the finalists were awarded one thousand BDT each.

Cultural event: 4BIW came to a halt, for the year on 27th November, 2019 at Brac Centre Inn. The ceremony represented the artistic and literary culture of our country through varied and numerous performances of the students. It displayed the beautiful music composed by Bengali instruments such as Tabla and Flute; not to mention the modern sounds of the violin and guitar. There was also marvelous Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangit and Folk songs.

In the middle of the procession, research Associates, Akh Kafi and Raihana Shams Islam Antara, presented the esteemed guests with a magnificent framed ‘Nakshi Katha’-symbolic of the Bangladeshi folk art. The event ended with Monipuri dance and Kabbo Natto(with flute) performances.

Excursion Tour: Ending a vastly successful workshop, 20 delegates left Brac Centre Inn at 9 am on the 28th of November in two different busses along with Brac University research associates Abdulla Hil Kafi and Raihana Shams Islam Antara for their day long excursion. The foreign delegates were taken Shangshad Bhaban first and then to The Liberation War Museum and given an informative tour about the history of Bangladesh and the liberation war that delivered us our nation.

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