

UNIVERSAL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) High Achievers Day

Outstanding UCB students who achieved top marks in their Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) first semester assessments were honored at a special High Achievers Day event. The students were from MUFY Batch-06 and MUFY Batch-07 who joined UCB in July and August 2023. Awards were made to the students who achieved the top scores in Mathematics, English, Business Units, and STEM Units, with some students achieving nearly 100%. The overall pass rate for these Batches was an amazing 97%, with most UCB students achieving the very top grades of Distinction and Higher Distinction.

MUFY Program Co-ordinator Ms Aura Rahman said, "I am delighted that so many of our students have performed so well with a fantastic average of 72% in their MUFY assessments. Many of our students scored over 90% in their assignments, and in Batch-06 we had two Business Unit High Achievers tied for the top spot. These great results show that our UCB students are among the very highest-scoring students in the world."

Each student was awarded a Certificate of Merit presented and signed by Professor Hew Gill, President of UCB. Prof Hew congratulated all the students, saying, "It is a great pleasure and honour to recognise the outstanding accomplishments, exemplary dedication, and scholarly excellence of our MUFY top performers. I am very proud of all our students and our international faculty team for achieving top marks and putting UCB among the best global institutions. These excellent results show that UCB students can be among the best by staying local and studying global."



Pictured from left to right are the MUFY High Achievers: Izharul Hoque (Mathematics, Batch-06), Mehwish Noor Sagir (Business Units, Batch-06), Jasia Samrin (Business Units, Batch-07), Sabita Sobhan Tahiya (Mathematics, Batch-07), Prof Hew, President of UCB, Md. Imtiaz Wasif Haque (English, Batch-07), Muammar Shariyar Adib (STEM Units, Batch-06), M. Riduwan Khan (Business Units, Batch-06), and Shaikh Rafi Zulfiquer (STEM Units, Batch-07).

All MUFY students who complete the program are guaranteed a place at Monash University. If you have completed HSC, O Levels, IGCSE, AS Levels, IDB or similar contact us admission@ucbbd.org for more information about how you can study local and go global as top scoring student at UCB.

Winter Clothing Donation

UCB students ended the year with a heartwarming Winter Clothes Donation Campaign, recognising the challenges faced by underprivileged individuals during the cold season. The students took the initiative to spread warmth amongst these less fortunate people by collecting warm winter clothes.

Members of the Student Council and Student Club ran an active campaign to encourage all students and staff of UCB to donate whatever unwanted clothes they could and it was a fun and engaging activity for a very good cause.

When the collection was complete, UCB collaborated with Mojar School, an institution renowned for their commendable work with deprived street children, to ensure the donate items were put to the very best use. Many of the items were distributed to the parents of children attending Mojar School because anything that can help the families and ease their financial burden is also a big help to the children as well.



Ms Shanzida Khanom of Mojar School commented, "It is great to see you are engaging your students in social work. I believe it will create a very positive impact on our societal development. Many, many best wishes for your team from Mojar School." These acts of generosity from our students, faculty and support team reflects our commitment to creating a warmer and more compassionate community, providing comfort to the lives of street kids and their families. We firmly believe that through such collective efforts, we can make a meaningful difference and spread the warmth of care and generosity. Even in the cold of winter, our students can spread warmth and create a brighter season for those in need.



Australia Day

UCB celebrated our strong partnership with Monash by commemorating Australia Day which marks the anniversary of the landing at Sydney Cove of the First Fleet from Britain in 1788.

UCB Student Council planned the celebrations for Australia Day, creating a very festive atmosphere on campus. Students designed and made Australian-themed decorations, colourful posters displaying famous sites, and bunting with Australian and Bangladesh flags. UCB Student Services compiled a list of everyday Aussie slang terms, introducing a whole host of new and interesting words and expressions.

Students, faculty and support team members gathered, to take part in an opening playful game of Pin the Tail on the Kangaroo or Koala. The UCB Student Council added an intellectual twist by designing an innovative quiz treasure hunt and word game. Teams of participants scoured the campus for hidden alphabet clues to solve anagrams and answer questions about the unique wildlife indigenous to Australia. There was also a student Craft and Art Competition that showcased our students' creativity as they turned simple coloured paper, glitter, glue into Aussie-inspired creations, including a model of the famous Sydney Harbour Bridge. The atmosphere was filled with laughter and happiness as the students enjoyed the celebration, which concluded with deserving prizes for the many active participants and their creative contributions.

Parents' Day

UCB held its Parents' Day feedback and counselling session on Saturday 13th January for the students of the 2023 MUFY 2A and MUFY 2B batches. The event was very well attended with more than 40 students and a similar number of parents meeting with members of the UCB faculty to review academic progress and plan the next steps of transitioning to another UCB programme or an overseas university. There was a very happy atmosphere because so many students had achieved such high scores in their MUFY first semester assessments and all were looking forward to beginning the second semester.

During the day Prof Hew delivered two briefing sessions on what comes after MUFY. He explained how MUFY students could choose direct entry to Monash Australia or Monash Malaysia, providing that they achieved the overall average marks needed to pursue their chosen degree programme. He also explained how UCB MUFY students can complete the first year of their Monash degree in Business, Engineering or Information Technology at UCB by enrolling in the MCD program.

Alternatively, MUFY students are also eligible for direct entry into the UCB University of London degree programmes under the academic direction of London School of Economics. There are four LSE supervised degrees available in Accounting & Finance, Business & Management, Economics, and Finance. Students can complete the full degree programmes at UCB in three years to qualify for a UK honours degree.

Prof Hew reminded students and parents that MUFY students transitioning to another UCB programme may well qualify for a bursary or even a generous scholarship. He said, "MUFY is a golden ticket to Monash, but always try to do your very best because higher marks mean higher scholarships and more savings."





Monash University Foundation Year Orientation Day

Universal College Bangladesh held the orientation program for the newly enrolling students of Monash university Foundation Year (MUFY) Semester 1, 2024 on Sunday 21st of January. The orientation day has historically been a great event to acquaint newly enrolling students with the MUFY program structure, policies, and procedures, as well as highlighting the pathways for MUFY students to international study. This orientation program was no exception with Professor Hew Gill, UCB President & Provost remarking at the opening ceremony that "A MUFY certificate is a golden ticket to one of the most amazing and top ranked universities anywhere in the world."

The event was made even more exciting by the presence of Ms S. Azra Karim and Mr Daniel Lum, members of the international student recruitment team at Monash Australia and Monash Malaysia respectively. Both of them highlighted the many Monash's program offerings available to UCB MUFY students, and highlighted the vibrant student lives and activities at the Australian and Malaysian campuses.

The newly enrolled students also gained perspective into what is in store for them beyond academics at UCB. The UCB Student Council delivered an enthusiastic talk about the many activities and events they have participated in and coordinated at UCB, and how UCB has helped them and other students build their confidence and leadership skills.

If you or anyone you know would like more information or is interesting to join the next MUFY intake in June 2024, please contact us now: admission@ucbbd.org



Chattogram Admission Camp

Universal College Bangladesh organised "UCB Admission Day in Chittagong" at The Peninsula Hotel on Saturday 20th January 2024. Prof. Hew Gill, President & Provost of UCB was present along with Mr Tanzil, UCB Marketing Manager, and Miss Sababa and Miss Tanha Senior Counselors for University of London - London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE) degrees and the Monash University Foundation Year and Monash Continuing Degree programs. It was a very busy day with students from various schools all over Chittagong coming with their parents and teachers for advice on their higher education options. Professor Hew shared with the students that UCB could help them pursue international education options right here in Bangladesh at the UCB campus in Dhaka. Students were very happy to have one-to-one counseling sessions with Miss Sababa and Miss Tanha, to take some academic assessments and to find out more about the many

scholarships available from UCB. Professor Hew said, "It has been an absolutely wonderful event and I have been delighted to meet with so many talented students from Chittagong. UCB international programmes will help them all study local and go global."

Admission to Monash University Continuing Degree Program (MCD)

Admissions are now open for the Monash Continuing Degree Pathway (MCD) program, which is a guaranteed route to the second year of a degree at Monash University Australia (MUA) or Monash University Malaysia (MUM).

The next MCD semester begins on Sunday 18th February and students from the HSC Science stream, AS, IBD, and A2 can join the MCD Pathway program. Many other qualifications are also accepted for entry to MCD, so contact us for more information: admission@ucbbd.org

UCB offers MCD Pathway programmes in Business & Commerce, Information Technology & Computing, and Engineering. The MCD Pathway programme is the same as the first year of a full Monash degree and students are guaranteed direct entry into the second year of degree study at MUA or MUM.

Students get many benefits for completing the MCD program from Universal College Bangladesh before moving on to complete the undergraduate program in MUA and MUM, including:

- 1. Affordable Cost:** MCD students at UCB can save costs and foreign currency outflow. A brief cost analysis is given below:

Program	Tuition Fee for 1st Year	Living Expenses/month
MCD Program (1st Year of Monash University) in Bangladesh fees	USD 7,900 (Saving more than 70% of the MUA first-year fees)	No additional cost as you are in Bangladesh
Monash University, Malaysia (MUM)	USD 8,000 to 10,000	On an average 700 USD
Monash University, Australia (MUA)	USD 30,000 to 35,000	On an average 2000 USD

- 2. Better Academic Support:** Students at UCB benefit from small group teaching, better academic support, and learning faster among their friends. The students also get guidance from in-house UCB faculty experts to choose the area of specialization following their strengths areas. We have observed students who complete the MCD program and then transfer to Australia and Malaysia find themselves adjusting faster to a foreign academic model and perform far better in their 2nd and 3rd years.

- 3. Better Peer-to-Peer Connection:** When MCD Students study with their Bangladeshi classmates in a known environment before setting themselves for a foreign land to complete their undergraduate journey, they are much more confident internally to adjust themselves to the cultural differences of a foreign land, which helps them to focus on their academics better. As many of UCB students move together as a cohort for their 2nd and 3rd years, they always have a social circle around them to support.

Completing MCD in Dhaka is a true win-win because students can spend more time with their families and spend a lot less money than studying overseas. At the end of MCD, students are guaranteed access to year two of their degree program at MUM or MUA. This is an amazing offer because Monash University is ranked 42nd in the 2024 QS World University Rankings and UCB is the only transnational education institution in Bangladesh that can offer students a guaranteed pathway to a degree with Monash.

Contact us at admission@ucbbd.org for more information about how you can study locally and go global with UCB.

Events in February

UCB Student Club and campus will be very busy with lots of events in February.

Monash Continuing Degree (MCD) Program Orientation Day

The new intake for MCD will hold its orientation day on 18th February. Parents and students are welcome to attend and learn all about the program.

If you know anyone who would like to join the next MCD intake contact us now admission@ucbbd.org

Monash Progression Day

An opportunity for students and parents to meet with experts from Monash Australia and Monash Malaysia to find out about transitioning from MUFY and MCD programs to degree programs in Melbourne and Kuala Lumpur.

UCB Online Quiz

A National Monthly Online quiz for students, with big cash prizes equivalent to 40,000 BDT for the winners.

Chocolate Day

A celebration of everything to do with chocolate and a chance to win chocolate prizes through games, quizzes and competing in the chocolate tasting challenge.

If you would like to take part in any UCB event or for the UCB team to visit your organisation or institutions, please contact us now: marketing@ucbbd.org

Eduko International Education Fair

An opportunity for students to find out more about Monash University Australia and Malaysia, and the many other international universities that accept the qualifications offered at UCB

Polhela Falgun & Valentine's Day

The Student Council is organising an event to mark Polhela Falgun and Valentine's Day, so get your flowers ready!

Language Martyrs Day

A commemoration of those who gave their lives to preserve the Bangla language.

Leap Year Day

A celebration of the 29th February that only comes once every four years!

Harvard ManageMentor Sessions

Training sessions developed by Harvard University to help students improve their skills. These sessions are hosted at the UCB campus and are free for all students who attend.