

UNIVERSAL NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

CELEBRATING POHELA BAISHAKH 1431

On April 18th, we had an amazing celebration at UCB for Pohela Baishakh. The campus was buzzing with energy and excitement as everyone came together dressed in vibrant red and white, echoing the colors of our UCB logo. Our students led the charge, organizing dances, games, and selling delicious Bengali food. It was heartwarming to see students from different backgrounds joining in the festivities, along with friends from other institutions.

The event showed how people from different backgrounds can come together and have fun. It was a happy day where everyone celebrated Bengali culture. The atmosphere was cheerful and full of energy. People enjoyed watching dances and trying new foods. Pohela Baishakh at UCB was a chance for everyone to share in their joy and traditions. It brought people closer and made them appreciate each other's cultures. It was a memorable day that left everyone feeling happy and connected.



MUFY PREDICTED GRADES RELEASE DAY



The predicted grades of soon-to-be-graduating MUFY students were released on 17th April. Apart from the students, this first-of-its-kind event was attended by all staff members of the academic team for Monash Programs. This event mainly served to motivate students to take thorough preparation for the semester finals that are looming ahead.

The weeks leading up to the final examinations are important for both students and faculty members as they mark the closure of the teaching period and are critical in determining how a student performs in the examinations. Hence, all faculty members encouraged their students to prepare well for the remaining assessments.

This event also allowed the students to engage in insightful discussions with the teaching staff and program coordinators about their future academic plans. The program coordinators of both MUFY and MCD streams sat down with students to have one-to-one conversation regarding the next step in their academic journey available at UCB and beyond. This event proved to be fruitful in promoting academic success among the students.



MUFY PROGRESSION DAY



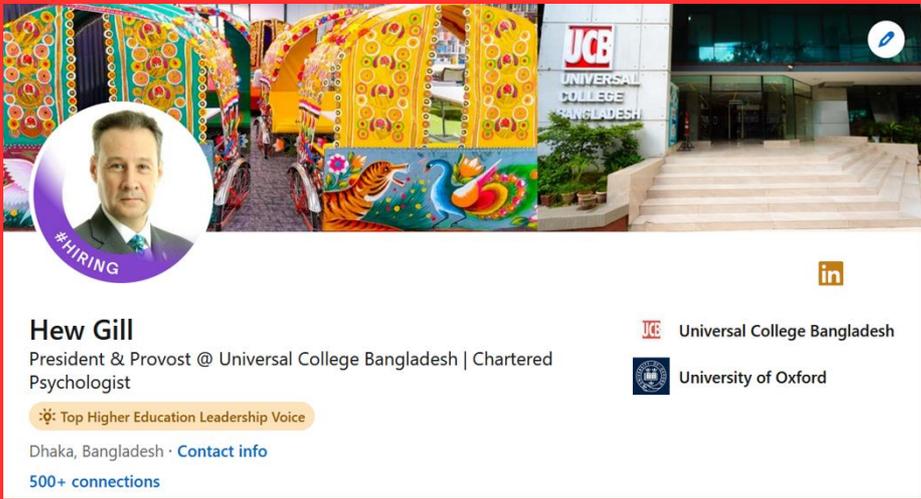
UCB held its MUFY Progression Day on Saturday 20th April for the students of MUFY 2023, 2A and MUFY 2B batches. The event was very well attended with more than 40 students and their parents. They had the opportunity to meet with the UCB faculty members to discuss MUFY final assessments and their predicted grades. Members of the UCB Enrolment team were also present to help students plan their next steps for transitioning to another UCB programme or to Monash Melbourne or Monash Malaysia. Parents also had the opportunity to talk to the representatives from UCB sister organization Eduko Pathways to get free and unbiased guidance about how to make the transition to study overseas.

During the Progression Day, our President 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. 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. 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.



PROFESSOR HEW GILL: LINKEDIN'S HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP STAR!



LinkedIn
TOP VOICES
Leadership

Hew Gill
President & Provost @ Universal College Bangladesh | Chartered Psychologist

🌟 Top Higher Education Leadership Voice

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Universal College Bangladesh
University of Oxford

Prof Hew Gill, President and Provost of UCB, has been awarded the accolade of Top Higher Education Voice by the global business network Linked-in. Prof Hew has been recognised for his many important articles and contributions to improving the quality of higher education leadership and institutions around the world. In addition to the many articles that Prof Hew has published, he has also been an invited speaker at international conferences and has also conducted mentoring seminars to help university leaders to improve their management skills.

Prof Hew is able to draw upon his more than three decades of experience as a global entrepreneur, international banker, and leading academic to give university and college managers some unique and actionable insights into how to lead their institutions more effectively. On learning of the Linked-in award Prof Hew said, "It is a great honour to be given this international recognition for my work to improve the standards of educational leadership across the world, but particularly in Asia. I look forward to making UCB a centre for higher education excellence in Bangladesh."

UCB MONTHLY ONLINE QUIZ - APRIL



Universal college Bangladesh is seeing overwhelming participation in the monthly Online National Quiz . The size of participation is increasing month after month, with hundreds of students across Bangladesh registering to take part in the hope of winning one of the many cash prizes.

The April Online National Quiz was organized on 3rd April 2024 and rewards were distributed to the winners and to the top students from schools across the country. This means that there are more chances to win a cash prize if there are more schools taking part. The following students got cash rewards from Prof HEw Gill, President & Provost of UCB, and Mr Amit Prasad, COO of UCB, in the prize distribution ceremony which was organized took place at the UCB campus on 20th April 2024. The prize winners were:

Position	Name	Institution
1st	Nusrat Noorjahan	BAF Shaheen English Medium School (SEMC)
2nd	MD Abid Shahriar	Dhaka Residential Model College
3rd	Ahnaf Anis	Adamjee Cantonment College
4th	Sayem Bin Bashar	A.G. Church School
5th	H M Kabir Hasan	South Herald English School & College



INSPIRATION FROM WORLD CREATIVITY & INNOVATION DAY



UCB Science Club members commemorated World Creativity and Innovation Day on April 21st at the UCB Library & Resource Centre on Level 3. During the event, IT student Zaim Khan showcased an innovative safety device designed for fire hazard prevention. Additionally, a group of third-trimester engineering students showcased a solar-powered fish tank tailored for the Indigenous Australian community of Queensland. A glimpse of the event can be found in this [video](#).

There was also an exhibition showing some famous innovations that have had a significant impact on how we live in the modern world, including the steam engine, the first computer code, and the railways. Each of the innovations displayed were also accompanied with some information about their creators, all of whom are an inspiration to our UCB students.

VISIT BY DR. MONICA KENNEDY FROM AUSTRADE



Dr. Monica Kennedy, Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner, Mumbai at Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) visited Universal College Bangladesh on April 23, 2024. She was accompanied by Vik Singh, Trade and Investment Commissioner at Austrade and Mostafizur Rahman, Director at Austrade. Prof. Hew Gill, President and Provost of UCB along with Prof. Muhammad Ismail Hossain, Dean of Academic Affairs and Amit Prasad, COO greeted the Austrade team at UCB.

There was a very fruitful discussion relating to the future of Australian education qualifications for Bangladeshi students, especially with the current reforms in migration policies across the globe including Australia. Both teams agreed that Australian educational qualifications are considered world class especially qualifications from elite universities like Monash.



Bangladeshi students facilitated through Monash Pathway Programs offered at UCB and eventually completing their degree from Monash University are more likely to secure a world class job and international migration opportunities. The Austrade team later visited the top-notch classroom and lab facilities of UCB and physically observed how UCB is running Monash programs in its campus. The visit of Austrade team ended with the joint commitment between Austrade and UCB to promote good quality Australian education qualifications in Bangladesh.

MUFY STUDENTS HONOR MR. DEWAN YAZDANI WITH BEST TEACHER AWARD



Monash University Foundation Year students of the 2024 2B Batch at Universal College Bangladesh honoured Mr Dewan Muhammad Nur-A Yazdani with the Best Teacher Award. Every semester all the lecturers at UCB are rated by students for their performance, and the average levels of satisfaction are close to 100%. Alongside these ratings, students are also given the opportunity to nominate one lecturer who they have found particularly impactful on their education journey. Choosing one lecturer from such a talented team of academics is always challenging and the results of the student poll are always very close. On

this occasion Mr. Yazdani has secured the top spot for his exceptional dedication and passion for teaching, qualities which have earned him the admiration of students and colleagues alike. Students pointed out that Mr. Yazdani is particularly notable for his amazing ability to simplify complex concepts and support students to develop the skills they need to perform well in their assessments. UCB is very grateful to Mr. Yazdani for his unwavering support which has left a lasting impact on the educational journey of every student who has been lucky enough to study one of the units that he teaches. We unite in offering our congratulations, Mr. Yazdani !

UCB AND SINGER BANGLADESH JOIN FORCES



Universal College Bangladesh (UCB) and Singer Bangladesh have forged an alliance to transform students into industry assets. This unique partnership aims to expand the scope of academia-industry collaboration, equipping students with industry knowledge for better career prospects. UCB, a pioneering international education provider approved by the Ministry of Education, recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Singer Bangladesh, a leading electronics and home appliance company. The MoU was signed at Singer Bangladesh's corporate office, with UCB's CEO, Manas Singh, and Singer Bangladesh's Managing Director and CEO, MHM Fairoz, representing their respective organizations.



The signing ceremony also witnessed the presence of high officials from both organizations Syed Zahidul Islam, General Manager, Human Resources, Singer Bangladesh, Soureen Dutta, Head of Programme, UCB UoL-LSE and S. M. Risalat Rahman, Assistant Manager, UCB.

This strategic partnership aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world industry needs, benefiting students and contributing to the nation's economic growth.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY 2024



On April 29th, Universal College Bangladesh came alive with rhythmic beats and graceful movements. Students showcased their passion for dance, seamlessly blending tradition and modernity. From classical Kathak to contemporary fusion, the stage pulsed with energy.

Parents beamed with pride, witnessing their children express themselves through art. The event fostered a sense of community, reminding everyone that dance transcends boundaries. For a few hours, worries melted away, and joy took center stage.

MONASH CONTINUING DEGREE (MCD) PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS AND OFFERS



On April 20, 2024, Universal College Bangladesh (UCB) hosted an informative session for students and parents from existing MUFY (Monash University Foundation Year) batches. The purpose was twofold: to delve into MUFY predictive grades and to explore career pathways beyond foundation programs. The event brought together faculty members, the counseling team, and Eduko Pathways, a study abroad facilitator.

During the session, Prof Hew Gill, UCB's President and Provost, emphasized the advantages of transitioning from MUFY to Monash College Diplomas (MCD). These benefits included a special grant of \$1580 for students continuing their Monash degrees at UCB.



Additionally, students who start their university journey at UCB are well-prepared for higher-level studies and arrive in Melbourne or Malaysia with a supportive network of friends from Bangladesh. The engagement was a valuable opportunity for all stakeholders, fostering connections and paving the way for successful academic journeys.

EVENTS IN JUNE

➤ UCB Maths Olympiad

UCB will be hosting our first Maths Olympiad for HSC, O and A level students, with a cash prize of BDT One Lakh for the overall winner. It's an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their math prowess and do some sums to win a tidy sum !

➤ Monash Online Seminar - preparing for success: academic & career pathways in IT and Business

Dermott McGrath and Amy Newman from Monash University will be joining Prof Hew and Mr Soureen from UCB for an interactive online session about how HSC, O and A Level students can prepare for future careers in business and IT.

➤ Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti

A celebration of the life and many artistic achievements of the great poet who made Bangla and English his own.

➤ World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

The UCB Science Club will be hosting an exhibition showing how the development of communication systems from the telegraph to the satellite has impacted and enriched all our lives.

➤ World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

Students will be showcasing the hallmarks of the many regional and international cultures that are represented across the College.

➤ World NO Tobacco Day

Our non-smoking and non-vaping campus will mark NO Tobacco Day with an exhibition about the harmful effects of using tobacco, with advice and guidance for anyone who has a need to kick the weed.

➤ Career Counselling Seminar for EDEXCEL students

Ms Azra Karim from Monash University will be joining Prof Hew and the UCB team to give individual counselling and advice to students about the best study options after HSC, O and A level to get their dream careers.

