

UNIVERSAL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

AFFORDABLE UK DEGREES IN BANGLADESH WITH UCB-UCLAN PARTNERSHIP

UCB has entered into partnership with the prestigious University of Central Lancashire (UCLan). UCLan is the fourth biggest university in the UK and is ranked in the top 7% of universities in the world.

The partnership agreement was signed by Mr Bob Kundanmal, Chairman of the UCB Board and Prof Catherine Jackson, Pro-Vice Chancellor of UCLan, in the presence of Education Minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury and H.E. Ms Sarah Cooke, British High Commissioner to Bangladesh.

UCB will launch full three-year degrees from UCLan later this year. The British degrees will be very affordable so that Bangladeshi students can get qualifications with high global recognition at low cost in Dhaka.

Education Minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury said: "We have to focus on enriching the nation's future workforce by empowering our youth with timely skills that align with the demands of not just the local but the global market. The partnership between UCB and UCLan is an ideal example of recognizing the need for global education, one that should be followed by others in the sector as well."



H.E. Sarah Cooke, British High Commissioner said: "Over half a million students globally are currently studying for a UK degree overseas, helping to boost their future job prospects. British higher education institutions are dedicated to providing accessible and high-quality higher education, building a brighter future for students around the world."

Prof Hew Gill, President & Provost of UCB, who is also British said, "I am delighted that we are bringing more world-class UK degrees to Bangladesh, and that students can stay local and learn global by completing UK university degrees right here in Dhaka."

STUDENTS CELEBRATE WORLD TOPPING RESULTS AT MONASH GRADUATION CONVOCATION



The UCB-Monash 2024 Graduation Convocation was held at the Sheraton Dhaka to celebrate the success of 102 students. H. E. Nardia Simpson, Acting High Commissioner of Australia to Bangladesh graced the event as the Chief Guest, along with Mr Matt Carter, Executive Director of Education at Monash College, Australia.

Mr Zarif Munir, Member of the Board of UCB presented certificates to the graduates, and prizes were presented by H. E. Ms Nardia Simpson, Mr Matt Carter, and Prof Hew Gill, President & Provost of UCB. There was a lot to celebrate because UCB students achieved record results with a 100 percent passing rate for the Monash College Diploma program, and an amazing 97 percent success rate for the Monash University Foundation Year.

Jo Mithen, CEO of Monash College, Melbourne, sent a special message praising UCB on its great achievement: "We congratulate the staff and students of UCB on the outstanding achievements of the cohort in the recent semester outtake. The strength of academic preparation provided by the team has ensured the highest level of success yet for students of the College, ensuring they are very well prepared for the next stage of their academic journey. Well done to all involved and we look forward to continuing outstanding results from UCB! Thank you for your contributions to our students' success, and for your continuing commitment to excellence at UCB"

The valedictorian was Sayeedul Alamin Arnab, who also won awards for being the best Monash College Diploma student, and for world beating exam performances. Arnab did so well at UCB that he won the prestigious Vice-Chancellor's International Scholarship to continue his studies at Macquarie University.



Professor Hew Gill, President & Provost, UCB said, "I am delighted to announce at this Graduation that UCB results in Dhaka are now better than Monash results in Australia. Our Monash programs offer a guaranteed pathway to a world top 40 university for every student who passes, and all our students pass. This means all our students are prepared for excellence and we are honoured to have played a role in our students' academic journey."

BOLLYWOOD DANCE FIESTA

On June 3rd, 2024, Universal College Bangladesh was blazing with the vibrant colors and rhythms of Bollywood. Students from the UCB University of London degrees under the academic direction of the London School of Economics organised an amazing dance fiesta to celebrate the end of their exams.

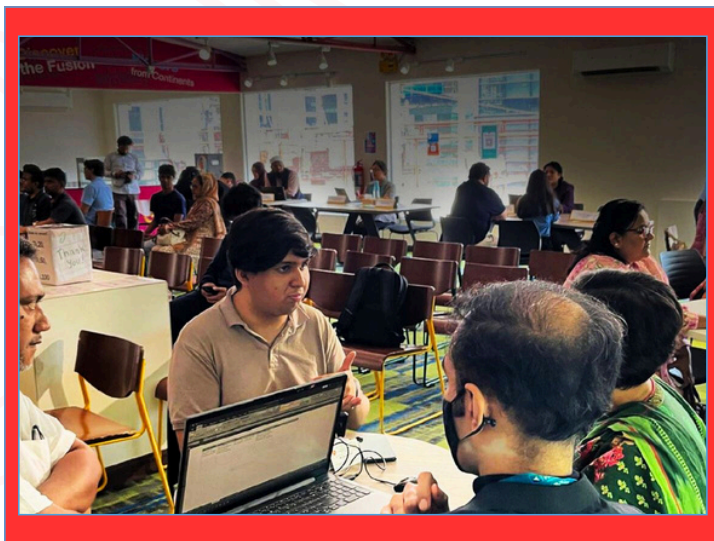
The students meticulously planned, organised, and performed many different displays of dance. Their enthusiasm was matched by the invaluable support of Ms Zeba our Student Service Executive, who helped them create a gorgeous event that captivated everyone present.

The venue was the Level 6 Student Lounge which was adorned with Bollywood-themed decorations, featuring photobooths inspired by iconic Bollywood movies and characters. The festivities included dazzling dance performances to popular Bollywood songs, and a fashion show highlighting Bollywood characters.

The students' amazing performances and perfect planning created a fun and exciting atmosphere. The dance fiesta was a considerable success and left an impression on everyone who attended. Their hard work and creativity shone through in every part of the event. It was a night filled with laughter, music, and unforgettable memories, highlighting the students' ability to balance fun and their academic studies perfectly.



UCB MONASH PROGRESSION DAY



UCB held a Monash Progression Day on June 6, 2024, at the UCB campus for those students planning to continue their studies with Monash University in Australia or Malaysia. Ms. Azra Karim, the Monash Representative in Bangladesh, graced the event to offer guidance to the students. During the event, the many successful MUFY

and MCD UCB students sought additional details about the Monash University application procedures and degree programs. Eduko Pathways, a UCB sister concern, was also on hand to address questions about visa-related issues and to give students free advice about travelling and staying overseas. Prospective students participated in one-on-one sessions with the team of experts from Monash, UCB and Eduko, and greatly benefited from the opportunity.

Attending the UCB Monash Progression Day session offered the following benefits:

- Guidance from Ms. Azra Karim, the Monash Representative in Bangladesh.
- Information on the Monash University application process for MUFY and MCD students.
- Assistance with travel, ticketing, accommodation, and visa-related issues provided by UCB's sister concern, Eduko Pathways.
- Personalised and enriched insights and knowledge about Monash University and its offerings for every UCB student.

UCB STUDENT AMBASSADOR INDUCTION

UCB has appointed 10 volunteers as Student Ambassadors. Anyone visiting the UCB website can directly chat with the student ambassadors. The student ambassadors can share their experiences, insights, and campus life making it easier for prospective students to get a full understanding about UCB and the many exciting international programs and degrees that are offered by UCB. The new Student Ambassadors will be available to engage with prospective students on a personal level, answering questions, sharing personal insights, and providing valuable information about academic studies, campus life, extracurricular activities, and much more.



UCB MCD STUDENTS TOP WORLD WITH 100% PASS RATE



Universal College Bangladesh is proud to announce that it has successfully reached a milestone that every educational institution aspires to achieve. The milestone that it achieved in the recently completed

Monash College Continuing Degree (MCD) program Trimester 1 (T1), 2024 examination created a highly ambitious benchmark for all international partner institutions of Monash College, Australia as well for the college itself. In T1, 2024 Universal College Bangladesh achieved 100% pass rate, 79% average marks, and 82% Distinction and High Distinction. These results are the highest in the world and even better than Monash College, Australia. Such performance of UCB earned a wholehearted mention and appreciation note by Ms Jo Mithen, CEO of Monash College Australia. In her note Ms Jo congratulated the students as well as the staff and academic management who have been tirelessly working towards enhancing the performance of UCB students. Prof Md. Ismail Hossain, UCB Dean of Academic Affairs, said, "We encourage and support all our students to go beyond their comfort zone and continuously set new benchmarks for themselves. Our world class lecturers and small group teaching has enabled all our students to excel, and we're really proud of these wonderful results."

PROF HEW VISITS NOTRE DAME COLLEGE, DHAKA

President & Provost of Universal College Bangladesh, Prof. Hew Gill visited Notre Dame College, Dhaka on 10th June 2024 and met the honorable principal Dr. Father Hemanto Pius Rozario, CSC. Prof. Hew and Dr. Rozario had an depth conversation about the many international study opportunities available in Bangladesh with UCB, and how students can make the most of their skills by studying local to go global.



MONASH TEACHING WORKSHOPS AT UCB

UCB and Monash College organised two workshops for lecturers and teachers at the UCB Campus in Gulshan-1. Matt Carter, Executive Director of Education at Monash College, Australia led packed sessions. The first workshop dealt with how Artificial Intelligence can be used in learning and teaching, and the second session covered the Monash approach to achieve teaching excellence. Both workshops took place in one of UCB's flexible learning spaces. These specialist learning spaces are equipped with the latest technology and movable tables so students can easily form groups and teams to work on specific tasks together.

Prof Hew Gill, President & Provost of UCB, joined Mr Carter to present certificates of attendance to the teachers and lecturers who took part in the workshops. The teachers and lecturers represented schools from across Dhaka, including Glenrich International School, Chittagong Grammar School Dhaka and St. Joseph International School. Prof Hew said, "We are very grateful to Mr Carter for making these exciting presentations at UCB, and for helping local teachers improve their professional practice. We are privileged to have a presenter of the calibre of Matt Carter, who was a Grimwade Scholar and Fellow of Philosophy at



Melbourne University, and who is also the author of the very highly regarded book, *Minds and Computers: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence* which I heartily recommend to anyone who has an interest in this field."

MCD PROGRAM T2 2024 ORIENTATION PROGRAM

The new semester of the Monash Continuing Degree (MCD) program began with an orientation for new students and their parents on June 23 at the UCB campus.

The session commenced with presentations by Monash representatives Ms. Azra Karim and Daniel Lum on the scope and opportunities for graduates of the UCB MCD programs. The MCD Business Program Coordinator, Ms. Sumaiya showcased the program outline and requirements for the new students. The session also included informative sessions on Academic Policies led by Mr. Abhishek, Academic Integrity led by Ms. Aura, and Study Skills led by Mr. Yazdani.

Second-semester IT student Zaim Khan shared his experience at UCB and passed on his advice to the newcomers regarding challenges and solutions in the learning journey. Ms. Samia and Ms. Zeba from the Parent Engagement and Student Services departments showcased club and event details and guided students on how to participate in extracurricular activities at UCB.

The Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof. Ismail, delivered a valuable speech for the new students, reflecting the importance of regularity, attentiveness, and determination to succeed in the MCD programs. UCB President & Provost, Prof. Hew, welcomed the new



students with his message on academic achievement, and how to realize their future academic success by fulfilling the expectations of their current study programs.

The academic part of the orientation session was hosted by Dr. Sadia Afreen with a team of academic faculty and academic support team staff. The program ended with a technical session for the new students led by Mr. Biplab on how to log in to their Monash accounts and use the online learning management system, Moodle.

DR SADIA HOSTS 2ND MEETING OF MONASH ACADEMIC SUPPORT COP

Monash Academic Support CoP is a community of all Monash College international partners that aims to improve teaching and learning experiences for mentors and mentees in Monash programs. UCB Assistant Professor Dr Sadia Afreen was invited to host the 2nd meeting of CoP held in June 2024. Dr Sadia is the Program Coordinator for the Monash Continuing Degree programs in Engineering and IT at UCB, and also has extensive international experience, so she was a natural choice to lead a meeting for academic colleagues from across the World.

The topic of the meeting was 'Understanding Student's Learning Difficulties and Solutions'. All the Monash partners from Australia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Sri Lanka were present in the meeting and shared their valuable insights. Dr Sadia, as the host, presented many useful points about tackling students' learning difficulties, reasons, solutions, and how to develop a supportive learning and teaching environment for mentors and mentees at their respective campuses. Her presentation and moderation of the session facilitated a constructive interactive discussion between the many lecturers and Program Coordinators present.



The session ended with a few concluding notes for the next meeting which Dr Sadia proposed should tackle the important topic of Academic Integrity. Dr Sadia's suggestion was unanimously accepted. The meeting closed with a spontaneous outbreak of applause as the Monash team acknowledged Dr Sadia and thanked her for her wonderful hosting and great contribution to improving the quality of teaching and learning across all Monash programs.

UCB NATIONAL ONLINE QUIZ JUNE

The 5th monthly quiz of the year was hosted by UCB, showcasing the remarkable enthusiasm of students across Bangladesh for challenging each other online. The event took place on Thursday, June 27, 2024, and we extend our congratulations to all the winners, applauding their dedication to expanding their knowledge. The winner list is given below:

Position	Name	Institution
1st	Farrin Zunaina	DPS STS School Dhaka
2nd	Nusrat Noorjahan	Baf Shaheen English Medium School (Semc)
3rd	Aditya Varshney	International School Dhaka (Isd)
4th	Mazba Uddin Saif	Dhaka Residential Model College
5th	Sadman Anis	Bangladesh International School & College (Bisc)



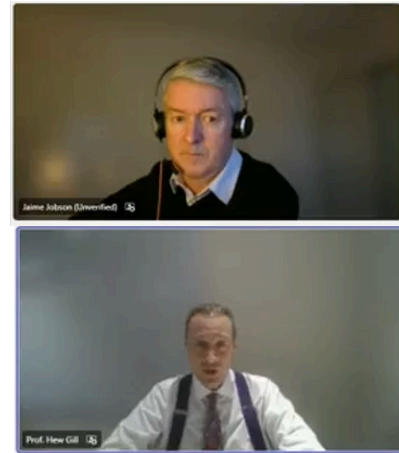
We look forward to returning with the 6th edition of the UCB Quiz Competition on July 22, 2024. You can scan the qr code to register for the July quiz:



ONLINE ENGINEERING SEMINAR WITH MONASH UNIVERSITY

UCB regularly hosts career webinars to assist high school students in their transition to university education. On 11th June, 2024, UCB conducted a session tailored for students aspiring to pursue a career in Engineering. The topic of the webinar was: Exploring the Demand for Engineering as a Stream and Opportunities at Monash University.

The distinguished panelists for the webinar included Professor Hew Gill, President & Provost of UCB, alongside Mr. Jaime Jobson, Regional Recruitment Manager at Monash Engineering. The gentlemen discussed how the modern economy needs many more engineers, which means that there is great scope and many avenues for graduates of Engineering, and an amazing number of career paths to follow. UCB offers Monash University Foundation Year and Monash Continuing Degree programs that are gateways to student Engineering in the first or second year at Monash University in Australia or Malaysia.



The session was streamed live on Facebook, and insert students from across Bangladesh viewed the webcast and benefitted from the guidance and information provided throughout the session.

NEXT MUFY INTAKE CLOSSES ON JULY 15TH

The second Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) intake of 2024 is scheduled to commence on July 15. Places are limited and interested students are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible to ensure they get a seat. MUFY is offered by Monash College and serves as a 9 month pre-university course that allows students with HSC, GCSE, O and AS Levels to accelerate their path to Monash University, Australia to begin their undergraduate studies. Any student who passes MUFY is guaranteed entry to Monash University which is ranked 37th in the world according to the QS World Ranking 2025. For further information on enrollment criteria, students can contact us at 01896013881 or email us at admission@ucbbd.org



STUDY MELBOURNE INFORMATION SESSION IN UCB CAMPUS



UCB hosted a Study Melbourne Information session on 25th June. Prof. Hew Gill, President of UCB, welcomed Ms. Anita Kumari, Trade Manager(Education) – South Asia and Ms. Abirami Vilvanathan, Manager, Study Melbourne South Asia to the UCB campus Library & Resource Centre. The audience of students, parents, school counsellors and teachers were treated to a very interesting presentation about the many study options available in Melbourne for Bangladeshi students. At the close of the session Mr. Kingshuk Gupta, COO of UCB also thanked Ms. Anita Kumari & Ms. Abirami Vilvanathan for visiting UCB all the way from India to conduct this informative presentation.

Events in July

As usual, the UCB Student Club and campus will be very busy with lots of events in July

University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) Visit to UCB

1 July 2024

Viqarunnisa Noon School & College Harvard ManageMentor® Workshop at UCB

13 July 2024

MUFY 2A Orientation

14 July 2024

International Chess Day

20 July 2024

Notre Dame College, Dhaka Harvard ManageMentor® Workshop at UCB

20 July 2024

UCB International Foundation Year Free Sessions

21 July 2024

UCB National Online Quiz July

22 July 2024

International Friendship Day

30 July 2024

