

Dhaka University Statistics Department Alumni Association (DUSDAA)

Formation and Objectives of DUSDAA

In the path of expansions of Dhaka University, the Department of Statistics was formally established in 1950 under the leadership of Professor Qazi Motahar Hossain, one of the most eminent academicians of the university. From its establishment, the department has been contributing immensely in the field of research and development of the country by producing world class statisticians. The department of Statistics in Dhaka University, as the first department in the country, is the pioneer and leader of all statistical activities in Bangladesh. Many graduates from this department have been involved in many reputed organizations in both home and abroad and honored by the statistics community. The department is nurtured by the legends, high dignitaries, notable personalities under whose able guidance, supervision and direction, the department has been gaining strength to cover new horizons in time.

To have an alumni association is instinctively an ever cherished desire for each and every alumnus of an institution. The multi-folded reasons behind such desire is traditionally thought to be the natural human dispositions like nostalgic emotion, craving for peer support, onus, belongingness etc., but in modern days realistic reasons like professional networking and academic partnerships are becoming more pronounced. In fact alumni association is a bridge between current and former students of the department.

The formation of an alumni association is practically not that much easy because gathering the alumni together would require a lot of efforts and leadership. As per decision of an academic committee of the department, Prof. M Nurul Islam took initiatives to establish Statistics Alumni Association in 2006 but his good wills didn't work properly. After that, an enthusiastic bunch of faculty members of the department took the challenges under the suave leadership of Professor Dr. M. Ataharul Islam.

Finally, on 12 May 2009, the Academic Committee of the department took an unanimous resolution to initiate the formation of Alumni Association of the Department of Statistics, DU and the following convening committee was formed:

1. Prof. M. Ataharul Islam (**Convener**)
2. Prof. S.A. Mallick
3. Prof. M. Nurul Islam
4. Prof. M. Billah
5. Sayema Sharmeen
6. Dr. Jafar Ahmed Khan, and
7. Md. Lutfor Rahaman (**Member Secretary**)

To ensure the participation of many people home and abroad, the convening committee formed the following working committee in their first meeting.

1. Prof. M. Ataharul Islam (**Convener**)
2. Prof. Kazi Saleh Ahmed
3. Prof. S.A. Mallick
4. Prof. M. Nurul Islam
5. Prof. Kalipada Sen
6. Prof. Humayun Kabir
7. Prof. Manindra Kumar Roy
8. Prof. Mujibur Rahman
9. Prof. M. Billah
10. Prof. Md. Forhad Hossain
11. Prof. Sekander Hayat Khan
12. Prof. Syed Sahadat Hossain
13. Begum Joinab
14. Prof. Soma Chowdhury Biswas
15. Sayema Sharmeen
16. Dr. Jafar Ahmed Khan
17. Prof. Nazrul Islam Khan
18. Prof. Nashid Kamal
19. Ashraf Ul Alam
20. Manjur Ali Nantu
21. Mahbub Zaman
22. Dr. Ahmad Mushtaq Raza Chowdhury
23. Ashiqul Haq Chowdhury
24. Habib Abu Ibrahim
25. Md. Abdullah
26. Riti Ibrahim
27. Abdul Kayium Mukul
28. Mahfuzur Rahman
29. Kamrul Islam
30. Hamidul Haq Bhuyan

31. Satindra Nath Mitra
32. Abu Mosaddek Azad
33. A.S.M. Taifur
34. Aminul Islam Khoka
35. Dr. Abdur Razzaq
36. Dr. Md. Akter Hossain
37. Khurshida Khanam
38. Simeen Mahmud
39. Dr. Zahurul Islam
40. Dr. M. Shahidullah
41. Dr. Abdus Shakoor Fazlul Wahed
42. Dr. Rurnana Omar and
43. Md. Lutfor Rahaman (**Member Secretary**).

In the first meeting of working committee only 15 members were present. In the meeting, the proposed name of the association was “Dhaka University Statistics department Alumni Association (DUSDAA)”. To collect members for the association and to prepare a draft constitution, the following two committees were formed in that meeting.

A. Member Collection Committee:

1. Dr. Ahmed Mostaque Raja Chowdhury (**Convener**)
2. Mr. Hamidul Haq Bhuyan
3. Dr. Abdur Razzaq
4. Mr. Md. Azad
5. Prof. Dr. M Ataharul Islam (**Member Secretary**)

B. Draft Constitution Prepare Committee:

1. Prof. Dr. Kazi Saleh Ahmed (**Convener**)
2. Prof. Dr. M. Ataharul Islam
3. Dr. J afar Ahmed Khan
4. Mr. Manjur Ali Nantu
5. Md. Lutfor Rahama (**Member Secretary**)

The last meeting of working committee was held on 01 October 2009. In this meeting, the proposed name of the association **Dhaka University Statistics department Alumni Association (DUSDAA)** and the draft constitution were confirmed. According to the accepted constitution, a 9 members “Trustee Board” was formed. Prof. Dr. Kazi Saleh Ahmed and Mr. S N Mitra have been elected president and general secretary respectively in the first Trustee Board. According to the constitution, the trustee board nominated a 13 members “Executive Committee” in its first meeting. Prof. Dr. M Ataharu Islam was the Chairman, Md. Lutfor Rahaman was Secretary, Communication & Member Services and Dr. Jafar Ahmed Khan was Secretary, Research and Publication in the first Executive Committee of DUSDAA. A finance committee headed by Mrs. Simeen Mahmud was formed by the Trustee Board.

The formal launching of DUSDAA was made in a very festive approach. The launching ceremony was held on 22 January 2010 at the front square of the Qazi Motaha Hossain Bhaban. Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, the then honourable Vice Chancellor of the University of Dhaka was present at the ceremony as chief guest.

The objectives of DUSDAA were then chalked out and approved by a joint meeting of the Board of Trusty, Executive Committee and Finance Committee. The objectives as mentioned in the constitution of DUSDAA are given below:

Short Term Objectives:

1. To celebrate the 60 years anniversary of the Statistics Department of the University of Dhaka through:
 - i. Reunion of the alumni;
 - ii. International Conference on Statistics;
 - iii. Publish an International Journal of Statistics.
2. To organize other activities such as:
 - i. To honour the renowned alumni statisticians from home and abroad for their lifetime contributions to the development of statistics;
 - ii. To reward/recognize the emerging alumni statisticians from home and abroad.
3. To encourage and enhance activities such as:
 - i. Collaborative research on statistics at various level to bridge the gap between alumni statisticians living home and abroad and the Department of Statistics, University of Dhaka in order to improve the quality of teaching and research at the Department of Statistics, University of Dhaka.

- ii. Facilitate Statisticians living abroad for conducting training/ workshop/ seminar/ research at the University of Dhaka.

Long Term Objectives

1. To support the efforts of the Department of Statistics for enhancing quality of education and research at the department;
2. To facilitate intellectual exchanges between the Department and advanced institutions in other countries;
3. To facilitate professional collaboration with institutions/organizations in Bangladesh.
4. To ensure and uphold professional competency at the Department.
5. To develop stronger bond among the members and well-wishers of DUSDAA.
6. To develop a data base of all members including areas of their expertise and interest.
7. To establish and maintain regular communication with members through mails, publications and web pages that would facilitate their participation in the activities of the Association.
8. To organize social activities, such as reunions, picnics, dinners, cultural programs and exchange visits for greater social cohesion among members.
9. To offer career counseling to students and graduates.
10. To conduct conferences, seminars, symposiums, workshops, lectures and discussion forums on relevant issues.
11. To support research and publication of books and journals.

At present DUSDAA is functioning by 4th Executive Committee under its Trustee Board. Dr. Ahmed Mustaque Raza Chowdhury and Dr. Abdur Razzaque are the President and Secretary of the Trustee Board. Prof. Dr. Syed Shahadat Hossain and Prof. Md. Lutfur Rahaman are the Chairman and Secretary General respectively of the Executive Committee of DUSDAA. Mr. Golam Rabbani is serving as Secretary, Communication and Member Services and Prof. Dr Taslim Sazzad Mallick is serving as Secretary, Research and Publication in the Executive Committee of DUSDAA.