

Developing future Nurse Leaders for Bangladesh



Convocation 2011 - Dr. Karen Lund, IUBAT Chair of Health Sciences, receives an award from the presiding Minister, Dr. Hasan Mahmud.

Since 2003, volunteers from Vancouver Canada have been working with IUBAT - International University of Business Agriculture and Technology, in Dhaka to develop a Bachelor of Science in Nursing [BSN] program with international standards. Their work has been **financed independently with volunteer support**.

The IUBAT BSN Program develops nursing leaders – senior nurses, teachers, managers. Like all IUBAT programs, Nursing is taught in English in a modern, comprehensive university setting in Uttara. **This BSN program was approved in 2004 by the Bangladesh Nursing Council.**

Currently, a **Canadian PhD educator guides the program**, alongside Bangladeshi and visiting faculty. About sixty students are enrolled. In addition to classrooms, a clinic and a simulation lab on the IUBAT campus, **leading hospitals are used for regular and frequent practice** - such as ICDDR,B, the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed, the Centre for Woman and Child Health Savar, the National Institute of Mental Health and United Hospital.

A modern curriculum with a focus on primary health care

In the IUBAT BSN program, junior students begin with the study of English, Computing, and Life Sciences, alongside students from other programs. As they progress, the Nursing focus increases: care of acutely ill adults in second year, followed by mental health, family nursing and community health. **Public and primary health care for women and young families** are the focus in third and fourth years as well as research and administration. **All courses emphasize patient assessment and education, professional communication, leadership skills, and ethics.**



IUBAT - medical-surgical nursing students prepare for certification exam in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

International faculty are teachers and role models

Every year, up to **twenty international experts come to IUBAT for teaching and clinical supervision**. These volunteer faculty **also provide quality assurance and program evaluation**. They are role models for professional practice for students and nurses working in the teaching hospitals. The IUBAT College of Nursing provides excellent student practice experience in hospital, clinic, mental health and maternal health settings. **Several Canadian and American universities send BSN and Masters level students to study at IUBAT.**

IUBAT's system goal is to help develop future nurse leaders for Bangladesh. **The first students, who graduated in 2009**, now work as senior nurses and instructors in Bangladesh and Nepal. The future career success of IUBAT nurses will help **transform the profession of nursing and improve population health.**