Profile of North South University

Background of NSU

North South University (NSU), the first private university in Bangladesh, was established in 1992 by the then Foundation for Promotion of Education and Research (FPER) - a charitable, non-profit, non-commercial and non-political organization. The FPER later was renamed as the NSU Foundation and is presently called the North South Foundation. The Foundation comprises a group of eminent industrialists, prominent patrons of education, notable philanthropists, widely experienced academics and senior civil servants of the country. In the early 1990s, they had a dream to set up a world class university as a center of excellence in higher education in the private sector. Their dedication, tireless efforts and hard work paved the way for approval of the establishment of NSU. Since, at that time, there was no relevant law in the country to set up and operate a university in the private sector, they took the entire burden and extended their best efforts in assisting the then government in formulating the relevant law and enacting it. Subsequently, the government, pursuant to the newly enacted law i.e. the Private University Act (PUA)-1992 (now repealed by PUA-2010), approved the establishment of NSU. The University was formally inaugurated by the then Prime Minister of Bangladesh on 10 February 1993 and started its journey in a very modest way in a rented building with an area of only 5000 sft. Later, in 2012, the NSU Foundation, in the light of the PUA 2010 and as instructed by the Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission, formed the NSU Trust with the same group of people in the Foundation and vested the entire management and administration of NSU in its Board of Trustees (BOT). The honorable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh is the Chancellor of NSU.

The BOT is the apex policy making and approving body of the University. Mr. AzimUddin Ahmed is the current Chairman of the BOT. The other members of the BOT are Mr. Benajir Ahmed, Mr. IftekharulAlam, Dr. RoushonAlam, Mr. M.A. Awal, Mr. Yussuf A. Harun, Mr. M.A. Hashem, Mr. M.A. Kalam, Mr. S.M. Kamaluddin, Mr. M.A. Kashem, Mr. AbulKashem, Mrs. Yasmin Kamal, Mrs. RehanaRahman, Mr. A.S.F Rahman, Mr. Mohammed Shajahan, Dr. Junaid Kamal Ahmad, and Mr. Nurul H. Khan. All of them are also the members of the NSU Trust. Professor Atiqul Islam, the Vice- Chancellor of NSU, is the Ex-Officio Member of the BOT. The other members of the NSU Trust are Prof. Syed A. Ahad, Mrs. Shaista Ahmad, Mr. Shah Abdul Hannanand Mr. MahbubarRahman.

The Syndicate is next to the BOT and is headed by the Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor is also the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the University. He is responsible for managing the administrative and academic affairs of the university as per the Private University Act (PUA 2010), and implementing the policy guidelines set by the BOT. The Vice Chancellor is assisted by a Pro-Vice Chancellor and a Treasurer. All of them are appointed by the Honorable Chancellor on recommendation of the BOT.

In general, NSU is modeled after US universities and follows their academic features such as semester systems, credit hours, letter grades etc. When first introduced, its curricula of undergraduate programs such as economics, business, environment, and computerscience were largely modeled after the curricula of the University of Illinois at Urbana -Champaign, and were duly approved by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh, the highest accrediting authority on higher education of the country. NSU has an International Advisory Board, comprising scholars from all over the world, to counsel and to suggest improvements on academic matters of the university.

The university is delivering a substantial general education curriculum, has a Strategic Plan, and has initiated and implemented student instructional learning assessment for degree programs and courses and is in the process of developing the infrastructure for evaluation of institutional effectiveness for its institutional accreditation.

Vision, mission and strategy

Vision

North South University will be and remain a center of excellence in higher education. It will gain recognition, nationally and globally and will attract students, faculty, and staff from all parts of the world.

Mission

The mission of North South University is to produce competent graduates in their selected disciplines who will have productive careers or choose to engage in advanced studies.

Our students will be:

 1. life-long learners with good leadership skills

 2. more proficient in oral, written and electronic communication

 3. critical thinkers with well-developed analytical skills

 4. ethical and socially responsible

 5. champions of diversity and tolerance

 6. globally aware with commitment to social justice and sustainability

Strategy

The university aims at (1) offering socially relevant academic programs consisting of a substantial general education component in all undergraduate programs; (2) recruiting and retaining good students, well-trained faculty with graduate degrees from overseas and qualified staff; (3) promoting effective teaching, quality research, and service; (4) providing appropriate physical facilities including classroom, labs and library with state of the art educational technology; (5) supporting co-curricular and extra-curricular activities; (6) practicing good governance and administration that encourage academic freedom and faculty-staff participation and (7) purposeful engagement of our alumni and community leaders.

Schools, departments/programs & degrees offered

**School of Business and Economics (SBE)**

***Undergraduate Degree Programs***

Bachelor of Business Administration (General)

**Department of Accounting & Finance**

Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting

Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance

**Department of Management**

Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship

Bachelor of Business Administration in Human Resource Management

Bachelor of Business Administration in Management

Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information System

Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management

**Department of Marketing & International Business**

Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business

Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing

**Department of Economics**

Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics

Bachelor of Science in Economics

***Graduate Degree Programs***

**MBA Programs**

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA)

**Concentrations of MBA & EMBA**

General

Finance

HR Management

Management

Marketing

**Department of Economics**

Master in Development Studies (MDS)

Master of Science in Economics

**School of Engineering & Physical Sciences (SEPS)**

***Undergraduate Degree Programs***

**Department of Architecture**

Bachelor of Architecture

**Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering**

Bachelor of Science in Civil & Environmental Engineering

**Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering**

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science & Engineering

Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Electronic Engineering

Bachelor of Science in Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering

***Graduate Degree Programs***

Master of Science in Computer Science & Engineering

Master of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Master of Science in Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering

**School of Health & Life Sciences (SHLS)**

***Undergraduate Degree Programs***

**Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Biotechnology

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology

**Department of Environmental Science & Management**

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

**Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

Bachelor of PharmacyProfessional (BPharm Professional)

***Graduate Degree Programs***

**Department of Biology & Chemistry**

Master of Science in Biotechnology

**Department of Environmental Science and Management**

Master of Science in Environmental Science & Management

**Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

Master of Pharmacy in Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacy

Master of Pharmacy in Pharmaceutical Technology and Biopharmaceutics

**Department of Public Health**

Master of Public Health

Executive Master in Public Health

**School of Humanities & Social Sciences (SHSS)**

***Undergraduate Degree Programs***

**Department of English & Modern Languages**

Bachelor of Arts in English

**Department of Law**

Bachelor of Law

***Graduate Degree Programs***

**Department of English**

Master of Arts in English

**Department of Political Science & Sociology**

Master of Public Policy and Governance

About Faculty Members of NSU(Asof April 2017)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| School | Departments | Number of faculty members | Number of faculty members with PhD |
| **School of Business and Economics (SBE)** | **Accounting and Finance** | Lecturer: 30Senior Lecturer: 15Assistant Professor: 2Associate Professor: 2Professor: 2 | With PhD: 6Without PhD: 45 |
| **Economics** | Lecturer: 20Senior Lecturer: 6Assistant Professor: 11Associate Professor: 1Professor: 5 | With PhD: 17Without PhD: 26 |
| **Management** | Lecturer: 32Senior Lecturer: 9Assistant Professor: 7Associate Professor: 0Professor: 6 | With PhD: 13Without PhD: 41 |
| **Marketing** | Lecturer: 35Senior Lecturer: 8Assistant Professor: 0Associate Professor: 2Professor: 0 | With PhD: 2Without PhD: 43 |
| **School of Health and Life Sciences (SHLS)** | **Biochemistry & Microbiology** | Lecturer: 8Senior Lecturer:1Assistant Professor:6Associate Professor:4Professor: 3 | With PhD:13Without PhD: 9 |
| **Environmental Science & Management** | Lecturer: 7Senior Lecturer:0Assistant Professor:2Associate Professor:1Professor:7 | With PhD:10Without PhD:7 |
| **Pharmaceutical Sciences** | Junior Lecturer: 1Lecturer: 12Senior Lecturer:4Assistant Professor:13Associate Professor:4Professor:1 | With PhD:19Without PhD:16 |
| **Public Health** | Junior Lecturer: 2Lecturer: 3Senior Lecturer:3Assistant Professor:1Associate Professor:6Professor:3 | With PhD:9Without PhD: 9 |
| **School of Engineering and Physical Sciences (SEPS)** | **Architecture** | Junior Lecturer: 1Lecturer: 3Senior Lecturer:6Assistant Professor:2Associate Professor:1Professor:1 | With PhD:3Without PhD: 11 |
| **Electrical & Computer Engineering** | Lecturer: 18Senior Lecturer:10Assistant Professor:8Associate Professor:5Professor:6 | With PhD:19Without PhD: 28 |
| **Civil & Environmental Engineering** | Lecturer: 6Senior Lecturer:1Assistant Professor:1Associate Professor:3Professor:3 | With PhD:7Without PhD: 7 |
| **Mathematics & Physics** | Lecturer: 2Senior Lecturer:4Assistant Professor:4Associate Professor:6Professor:2 | With PhD:12Without PhD: 6 |
| **School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS)** | **English & Modern Languages** | Junior Lecturer: 3Lecturer: 21Senior Lecturer:12Assistant Professor:4Associate Professor:1Professor:3 | With PhD:7Without PhD: 37 |
| **Political Science & Sociology** | Lecturer: 6Senior Lecturer:4Assistant Professor:4Associate Professor:1Professor:3 | With PhD:9Without PhD: 9 |
| **Law** | Lecturer: 7Senior Lecturer:1Assistant Professor:2Associate Professor: 0Professor: 0 | With PhD:2Without PhD: 8 |
| **History & Philosophy** | Lecturer: 4Senior Lecturer: 0Assistant Professor:1Associate Professor: 0Professor:2 | With PhD:3Without PhD: 4 |

Number of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled In JUNE 2017

Currently, a total number of 19, 943 students are enrolled in NSU, out of which 17, 307 and 2, 636 students are enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs respectively.

Number of students graduated this year

As per the 20thConvocation held on 9th April, 2017, out of 2, 642 graduating students, 1, 829 are from undergraduate and 813 are from graduate programs.

Institutes and Centers

1. **Confucius Institute:** In collaboration with Yunnan University, Kunming, China, NSU established Confucius Institute in February 2006 to teach Chinese Language and Culture. The Confucius Institute Headquarters (HANBAN) and Yunnan University provides funding, faculty members and teaching materials. In 2016, CI at NSU won the ‘Best CI Award’ among over 500 Confucius Institute Conference held at Kunming, China.
2. **NSU Global Health Institute (NGHI):** North South University Global Health Institute (NGHI) is a collaborative, strategic and applied research hub of innovation under the School of Health & Life Sciences for addressing current public health, climate change and various social challenges. NGHI offers different capacity building programs such as, Project Cycle Management (PCM) and Writing and Development Grant Proposal.
3. **Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC):**in January 2016, NSU established the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) with the higher education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) fund from the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the World Bank. A part of the funding will also be contributed by NSU. The IQAC is the central place for all quality related resources and information at NSU. The general objective of the IQAC is to promote a quality enhancement culture within the University by ensuring that the academic and administrative units adopt and implement quality assurance standards and benchmarked quality criteria. Furthermore, with the passing of the National Accreditation Council Law in the near future, the IQAC will be at the center of all work related to national accreditation of NSU.
4. **The Development Research Institute (IDESS):** The Institute of Development, Environment and Strategic Studies (IDESS) is a development research center within NSU. Being functionally autonomous, it enjoys freedom in setting up its research agenda. In the past, IDESS has undertaken research in diverse areas such as, economic policy forum, urban development, environment, gender issues, growth of manufacturing sector, rural development etc.
5. **Centre for Information and Communication Technology (CICT):** The Centre for Information and Communication Technology (CICT) has been formed at NSU in 2005 with the vision to accelerate technology to build a knowledge and skilled based center to avail avenues of opportunities for engineers and scientists in manufacturing and production engineering and technology transfer to industry.

Facilities and Services at nsu

Financial Assistance

The financial assistance committee of NSU administers a comprehensive program where students are encouraged to apply, if they believe that they need monetary assistance in order to attend NSU. Since its inception in 1993, a total of 1,227 students have been granted full/ partial tuition waivers, equivalent to Tk. 5.16 crore in the Fall 2016 semester, out of which 360 students were granted full (100%) waivers, which includes 240 wards of freedom fighters, 110 students 75%, 274 students 50% and 483 students received 25% waiver bringing the overall total financing grant to about Tk. 73.14 crore. NSU offers financial aid to students under the provision of Private University Act 2010, where students of NSU can apply in the following categories:

* Financial Aid for the Children of Freedom Fighters of Liberation War (Quota based waiver).
* Financial Aid based on previous academic attainment and admission test result (Merit based tuition waiver).
* Financial Aid based on high academic achievement at NSU (Merit based tuition waiver).
* Financial Aid based on financial NEED of a student (based on humanitarian ground).
* Financial Aid based on Need and Merit of a student (Merit-Need based waiver).
* Financial Aid based on Siblings study together at NSU.
* Financial Aid in the form of student employment at NSU (Work-Study based waiver).

NSU Library

The NSU Library has grown over the years since 1992 and now it is one of the best university libraries in the country. This is the first fully automated university library in the country that uses RFID based library management system. It is a customized bi-lingual Library Management Software developed by NSU Library. This software supports MARC-21, which allows web-based online lending and receiving books and browsing our extensive databases.

A total of around 50,500 books, reports and bound journals; over 105,328 online e-books; 50,000 online journals; 1,900 CD ROM books and databases; 229 DVDs and videos; 159 audio-cassettes and a good number of other resources of the library cover all branches of knowledge. At present, the library maintains 12 different sections, namely, arts and social sciences, applied sciences and engineering, bio-medical sciences, reference, periodicals, cyber and audio-visuals and others.

Laboratories

North South University supports the development of student knowledge and skills through its numerous state-of-the- art laboratory facilities. Among the numerous lab facilities are Electrical Circuit Laboratory, Electrical Machines Laboratory, Electrical Transmission and Distribution Systems Laboratory, Power Electronics Laboratory, Fiber Optic Communication System Lab, Information Systems and Machine Learning Lab, Database and Information System Laboratory, Internet and Web Programming Laboratory, Programming Lab, Software Engineering Lab, Surveying Laboratory, Concrete Laboratory, Environmental Science Lab, GIS and Environmental Modeling Lab and various other laboratory facilities specific to the pharmaceutical sciences.

Information Technology

The Information Technology office is in charge of maintaining hardware, software and network infrastructure at NSU. NSU offers online- based course registration and advising systems. A student can register for new courses every semester by using their laptop, smart phone or tablet from anywhere. By logging into the system, students can complete their course registration each semester, print class schedules and course registration details, check their grades, check outstanding fees and pay registration fees online using a debit or credit card. Faculty members also benefit from an online integrated faculty resource, which allows for tasks like grade submission to be performed securely, remotely and easily. NSU is also one of the few universities in this region to be integrated with an email platform hosted and maintained by software giant Google. This office is also responsible for providing support and services to the students, faculty members and staff for their day to day IT operations on the campus.

Student Club Activities

Compared to other world- class universities, skill development has been embedded in academic programs as well as extra-curricular activities at NSU. Our club activities focus on the ability and capacity acquired through deliberate, systematic and sustained effort to smoothly carry out complex tasks through cognitive, technical and interpersonal skills. The Office of Student Affairs is devoted to developing tangible and intangible skills among the students through 21 vibrant clubs at NSU.

The clubs are: Art & Photography Club, Athletics Club, Cine & Drama Club, Communications Club, Debate Club, Computer & Engineering Club, Diversity Club, Earth Club, Ethics Club, Finance Club, Human Resources Club, International Business Club, The Marketing Club, MBA Club, Model UN Club, Pharmaceutical Club, Public Health & Sciences Club, ShangskritikShangathan, Social Services Club, Young Economists Forum, and Young Entrepreneurs Society.

Campus

The state-of – the- art NSU campus is on a 5.5 acre lot in Bashundhara residential area. The campus comprises of six buildings wrapped around a central plaza. There are 113 class rooms, 66 laboratories, a 6- storied library building, 330 offices for core faculty and 22 academic department offices, a sophisticated auditorium with a capacity of 1020 seats, a seminar auditorium of 200 seats, 22- student club offices, an open air theatre, an attractive lobby, a gymnasium, a fitness club, a cafeteria, a medical center, a student counseling center, a recreation center, separate student lounges with prayer rooms for male and female students, 4-MW captive power generators, 3600 KVA grid connected power, 2 deep tube wells, 2750 TR chillers for central AC cooling system and 3- levels of basement parking space for 600 vehicles. The campus is under security surveillance of 300 CCTV cameras.

Office of External Affairs

The main aim of OEA is to foster mutual relationships with the external stakeholders of NSU and represent NSU’s best interests. The idea of establishing a separate external affairs office is to categorize outside activities and collaborations with foreign universities and international organizations, in terms of research and academic exchange. The Office of External Affairs, for its smooth functioning, is divided into four departments: Career and Placement Centre (CPC), Office of International Affairs (OIA), Public Relations Office (PRO) and Office of Alumni Affairs (OAA).

Office of Alumni Affairs

The objective of the Office of Alumni Affairs is to nurture and promote mutually- rewarding relationships between current students and alumni of NSU. It is a matter of pride that more than 100 NSU alumni with higher degrees from globally reputed universities are already serving as core faculty members in their parent departments. In addition, a good number of them are currently employed in reputed positions in national and international organization. Our alumni have also proved themselves as successful national and international entrepreneurs.

Office of International Affairs

The main aim of this office is to handle collaborations between NSU and reputed international universities, host international guests and help the international faculty members and students. There are many Memorandums of Understanding between NSU and various international universities. Twenty two of these MoUs are currently active while others are in the renewal process or under discussion, notably with the University of Maryland, George Washington University, University of Western Sydney and Macquarie University in Australia, and Mahidol University in Thailand These MoUs focus on the exchange of faculties, expertise, and students from both undergraduate and graduate programs.

Career and Placement Center (CPC)

NSU is the first private university in Bangladesh to establish Career and Placement Centre (CPC). Over the last few years, CPC has earned recognition as a comprehensive career management support platform for NSU students. It arranges internship & job placement opportunities, career counseling, job training, organizes career fairs and grooming sessions, and conducts resume writing workshops and graduate survey reports. In 2016, CPC provided 9, 673 services to its beneficiaries.

Student Counseling Center

The NSU Student Counseling Center is a mental health care unit to provide psychological services for NSU students. Psychological well-being is promoted here with the aim of academic achievement of students through intensive mental health care. This unit has arranged seminars and workshops on mental health orientation, drug managements, stress management and non-violent communication. Besides these, individual, couple and group counseling sessions are provided. Students usually visit this center having different kinds of problems to intake counseling/psychotherapy session such as: problem in achieving expected CGPA (lack of concentration in study, inefficiency in English, lack of confidence, unwanted intrusive thoughts etc.), fear in presentation / examination/ viva, difficulties to adjust with university culture/peer, lack of motivation, low mood/depression/suicidal thought, decreased self-esteem and confidence, conflict in interpersonal relationship or with family members, excessive anger/ impulsivity, handling any kind of stress, problems related to addiction (illicit drug, facebook etc.), and concerns about sexual health (myths and misconception about sexual issues), bullying or victim of sexual harassment / eve teasing.

**Sources:**

*1. Convocation Publication 2017*

*2. Orientation Ceremony Summer 2017*

*3. NSU Catalogue 2015-16 and 2014-15*

*4. NSU Website*