**CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA.**

**CALL FOR SPEAKERS:**

The University of Dhaka is seeking speakers to contribute to a series of webinar to mark their centenary event,

**International e-Conference - Celebrating 100 years of the University of Dhaka:Reflections - International and National.**

**Introduction:**

The year 2021 is significant for both Bangladesh and the University of Dhaka (DU) as both will celebrate significant milestones. Bangladesh celebrates its 50th year of independence, and Dhaka university its 100th year of existence.

DU started its journey on July 1, 1921 and has contributed significantly to not only higher education but also the country’s development. DU is dedicated to the advancement of learning, and is committed to promoting research in all fields of knowledge. As there are plans for further expansion of facilities, plans for new avenues and opportunities, the course curricula are updated and new research projects are undertaken every year. As the pioneer and the largest seat of learning in the country, DU has taken the task to foster the transformation processes of the individual students and the country as a whole through its educational and research facilities keeping up with demands of the day. The University of Dhaka is at this moment one of the leading institutions of higher education in Asia.

Presently the University enrolls more than 5,800 students, on merit basis, in the first year Honours Program in different Departments of the Faculties and the Institutes. Besides conducting teaching courses in the 4- year Bachelor and 1-year Masters Programmes, the University also trains up a large number of researchers in different disciplines. More than 1262 Ph.D. and 1217 M.Phil. researchers have obtained their degrees from this University.

**The Call:**

To mark this unique event and to benefit from the input of distinguished international academics, the University of Dhaka invites Abstracts for the 4-day webinar on the themes below. Interested academics and alumni, living in Bangladesh and abroad, are invited to submit abstracts of 500 words (maximum) on or before 17 December 2020. Authors of selected abstracts will be able to present their papers at the conference. Selected papers will also be considered for publication.

***Webinar 1:*** *History of the University of Dhaka and Higher Education in Bangladesh* (21-24 January 2021)

***Webinar 2:*** *Sciences for Society* (25-28 February 2021)

***Webinar 3****: Arts, Literature and Culture* (28-31 March 2021)

***Webinar 4****: Business for Sustainability (25-28 April 2021)*

***Webinar 5:*** *Social Sciences for Life and Living* (23-26 May 2021)

***Webinar 6:*** *Futures of Higher Education* (13-16 June 2021)

**Please see the Annex for the themes**

**How to apply**

To apply please send the following to [delower.hossain@bd.britishcouncil.org](mailto:delower.hossain@bd.britishcouncil.org) with the title, Speaker, 100 years of Dhaka University .

**Interested applicants should include the following:**

* An up-to-date CV
* An abstract of 500 words (maximum) on the theme.

**Important note:**

The British Council is assisting University of Dhaka in this webinar series. The choice of speakers however is entirely the decision of the University of Dhaka.

**Annex:**

**The webinar topic may be submitted on the following themes:**

***Webinar 1: History of the University of Dhaka and Higher Education in Bangladesh* (21-24 January 2021)**

i. British colonialism, Higher Education in Bengal and the Birth of DU

ii. DU and the Language Movement

iii. Role of DU in the Bangladesh Liberation War

iv. DU and the City of Dhaka - a Symbiotic Relationship

v. Outstanding DU Alumni of the Last Century

vi. DU Landmarks—Historical, Topographical and Mental

vii. Milestones to Celebrate in DU’s Centenary Year

***Webinar 2: Sciences for Society* (25-28 February 2021)**

i. Bio-science

ii. Earth science

iii. Physical science

iv. Environmental science

v. Health science

vi. Engineering and technology

vii. The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Bangladesh

viii. Climate change

ix. Food security

x. Innovation and intellectual property

xi. Public health

xii. Managing pandemics

xiii. Science Research Policy

xiv. Science and Academic Entrepreneurship

xv. Clean, sustainable and renewable energy

xvi. Maritime resources

***Webinar 3. Arts, Literature and Culture* (28-31 March 2021)**

This concept is divided into three historical timelines. Keeping the timelines in mind, the representation of the paper can be done on various themes in different ways apart from article submissions. The table below gives an idea about different ways of representation:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| The concept may be divided into the following three historical strands: | The historical strands may explicate  any of these thematic nodes: | The presentation may be made in any  of the following media: |
| 1921-1947:  The emergence of identity  against colonial reign. | (1) Language and/or Literature;  (2) Education;  (3) Theatre, Dance and/or Music;  (4) Visual Arts;  (5) Politics;  (6) Gender;  (7) Society;  (8) Culture and/or Festivities;  (9) Development;  (10) Nation and Nationalism;  (11) Ethnicity;  (12) Religion; and  (13) Celebrated literary personalities  like Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul  Islam, Buddhadev Basu, and more. | (1) Theatre, dance, recitation,  and/or music;  (2) Digital media;  (3) Visual arts;  (4) Film, tv and /or web tv;  (5) Virtual reality;  (6) Photography; and  (7) Writing. |
| 1947-1971:  The exertion of identity against  internal colonization. |
| 1971-2021  The assertion of identity in a  globalizing world. |

Following this framework, one may choose to examine, for example, The Overlap of Dhaka University, Performativity and Politics in the Context of Exertion of Identity Against Internal Colonization (1947-1971); or The Intersection of Dhaka University, Performativity and Nationalism in the Context of Assertion Identity in a Globalizing World (1971--2021); or

Education at the Interstice of Dhaka University and Performativity in the Context of the Emergence of Identity Against Colonial Reign (1921-1947). However, it is to be noted that specific title for presentation may be generated by imaginative application of the framework suggested above.

**Webinar 4. *Business for Sustainability (25-28 April 2021)***

i. Nation Brand Building

ii. Capital Market and Financing for Development

iii. Leadership for Growth and Development

iv. Innovation and Entrepreneurship

v. Fourth Industrial Revolution and the Future of Business

vi. International Business and Global Value Chain

vii. Governance and Sustainability

viii. Industry-Academia Partnership

***Webinar 5. Social Sciences for Life and Living* (23-26 May 2021)**

i. State, Society and Development

ii. Economy, Technology and Social Transformation in Bangladesh

iii. Nationalism, Populism and Global Politics

iv. Migration, Refugees and Displacement

v. Crime, Violence and Terrorism

vi. Population Dynamics in Bangladesh

vii. The Politics of Governance and Corruption

viii. The State of Gender in Bangladesh

ix. Environment, Ecology and Resilience

x. Diversity, Pluralism and Marginal Communities

xi. Media, Power, Politics

xii. Social Sciences of Pandemic: Health, Education and Livelihood

***Webinar 6.Futures of Higher Education* (13-16 June 2021).**

i. Digitalizing education and virtual campuses

ii. Blended learning, quality assurance and the future of higher education

iii. Creativity and the classrooms of tomorrow

iv. Higher education across disciplines and borders

v. Universities in the age of neo-globalization

vi. SDGs and university governance

vii. Research, innovation and funding opportunities in university education

viii. The political economy of higher education

ix. The fuss about ranking and accreditation

x. Artificial intelligence (AI) and the future of education

xi. Blue knowledge, eco-education and the university curriculum

xii. Post-pandemic higher education & mental health

xiii. The university in the age of market economics

xiv. South-South exchanges and universities in our part of the world

xiv. The humanities and higher education in our time

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