

Department of Oceanography University of Dhaka

Introduction:

The University of Dhaka is dedicated to the advancement of learning and is committed to promoting research in all fields of knowledge. It is one of the leading research institutes in Bangladesh, publishing 18% of all scholarly publications from the country. Scientists from the university have cooperated in research and training with many universities within the region and beyond. The university is situated in the southern-most part of Dhaka, near the old city. There are 40,000 students with 2,000 faculty members and 4,000 staff.

Teaching Opportunities:

The University of Dhaka's Oceanography Department is a relatively new department with only a few faculty members. The department has 20 new students each year for Bachelor degree studies in Oceanography and 25 M.S. students. The M.S. program lasts 18 months, with options with and without a thesis. Since oceanography is relatively a new area of study at the university, the students have a great deal of enthusiasm to learn many areas of oceanography. The graduate students are doing their theses under the supervision of Indian, Japanese and French scientists.

The University of Dhaka's Department of Oceanography would like to attract a Fulbright Specialist or Scholar to teach at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and to mentor M.S. and Ph.D. students for their theses. Experts in all disciplines of oceanography are desired, including physical, biological, geological, ecological, chemical, and satellite sub-disciplines.

Research Opportunities:

The Fulbright Specialist or Scholar will have many opportunities to work with other international scientists on their research.

Research conducted by the University of Dhaka is focused in the Bay of Bengal (BoB), especially its northern parts. The BoB is unusual in the global system in the predominance of freshwater inputs, which control many coastal and oceanic processes. The northern BoB is relatively unstudied.

The research vessel (the *Meen Anushondhani*) used by the university has available basic instruments for characterizing water column properties, including a CTD with Multiple Rosette Sampler and pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, fluorescence, and photosynthetically active radiation sensors. For biological sampling, the ship has plankton nets and seafloor samplers. The department is in the process of procuring a SKALAR Auto analyzer to analyze nutrients in seawater. The land-based analytical facilities available on campus are listed at <http://www.du.ac.bd/cars/htmlcontent/laboratories.php>.

Among the many different international joint collaborative studies, especially related to the BoB, the Fulbright Specialist or Scholar could get involved is a research cruise in the BoB in 2015 or later. Cruises will be organized by the University of Dhaka and the Indian National Institute of Oceanography, in cooperation with various French, Japanese and British institutions. The initial cruise will last about 40 days with 2 legs, starting around 15 October 2015 and completing by the

end of November 2015. The cruises will include high-resolution sampling with CTDs, XBTs, XCTDs (where needed) to characterize the physics of the system. In addition, the cruises will study benthic and pelagic processes; carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus cycling; the processes controlling oxygen dynamics; and the ocean carbon system.

Accommodations:

The University of Dhaka has guest houses located inside the university campus. These include dining facilities and free wireless internet service. These guest houses are the most convenient lodging for visiting scientists as there are few hotels close to the university.

Contact:

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