

## UNIVERSITY OF ASIA PACIFIC

## ইউনিভার্সিটি অব এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক



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Dear Students and Respected Guardians:

Hope that this message finds you all in the best of health and mind.

I am writing to you in response to this unprecedented global pandemic situation that has caste shadow over our lives and over the world with its uncertainty and unpredictability. The impacts of this worldwide phenomenon have affected our social, mental, economic and educational well-being. The world as well as our nation is facing a public health crisis; and personal safety and well-being have emerged as the topmost priority in our life. In the time of this global and national crisis we, the UAP family, were struck by yet another tragedy. We lost our beloved Vice-Chancellor, National Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury on the 28th of April, 2020. He was not only an iconic figure but also a great leader and policy maker. At a time like this we needed him more than ever to guide us and get us through.

But the adverse experiences have made us stronger and more determined to combat the situation with more vigor and strength. As we all know, to ward off COVID-19, countrywide lockdown was imposed as the main precautionary measure in many parts of the world including Bangladesh. As a part of countrywide lockdown in Bangladesh, educational institutes have been closed since last March halting our regular academic activities. Since then a rising concern has been felt by the government and the university authorities of the country as academic activities of so many young individuals cannot be stalled for an uncertain/indefinite period of time. Switching from in-person classes to online mode has been adopted by the universities worldwide as the only viable option that allows educational institutes to carry out academic activities while at the same time avoid the risk of getting infected by this highly contagious disease. University authorities in Bangladesh, in association with academic scholars and guided by UGC, have worked and developed a favorable framework for all, especially the students.

We are very fortunate that at UAP we have the experience, the technology, and the resources to continue our semester Spring 2020 entirely online. Soon before passing, our late Vice Chancellor, National Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury had formed a committee with the senior faculty members to explore the mode of online teaching and based on that committee's recommendations and also the guidelines of UGC, the policy for online teaching at UAP has been prepared. I am happy to announce that we are going to start the Spring 2020 semester online from the 28th of June and thus begin a new chapter in the history of UAP.

We realize that transition from in -person classes to the online mode will be a completely a new experience for most of our students and they may experience a great deal of anxiety before the semester starts. Let me assure you all that the authority and teachers of UAP are working diligently to make this new experience as convenient as possible for our beloved students. We are very much aware that there might be some hurdles on this journey. As we are working to develop a framework that will ensure that no student will be disadvantaged by online teaching and assessment, I would request our students not be stressed about it. Soft copies of the study materials will be provided to the students beforehand to help them to grips with content even when they face interruptions in the online classes. We are setting alternate assessments designs considering the circumstances they will be in with the desire to ensure that their exam experience will be fair and stress free. Moreover, any issues relating to their financial hardship or any other extenuating circumstances will be dealt with consideration and utmost care within our capacity. Student advisers and departmental administrative officers will communicate with the students very soon regarding how the academic and administrative activities involving the students will continue in the online environment.

At the very end, we are thankful to the students and their parents / guardians for having trust on us. I hope all will accept this new mode of learning with positive spirit and be cooperative in this new journey we are about to undertake. Please remember that it has always been our priority to help out loving students to complete their graduation in the allocated time framework. We have taken these measures to help them carry out their academic endeavors without putting their safety at risk. Thanks to each of you for your patience, cooperation, assistance and understanding.

Stay safe and healthy!

**Prof. Dr. M R Kabir** Acting Vice Chancellor