

A five-day workshop on “Development of Blended Course Using Moodle” has launched at AUST



Participants of the workshop with the program chair, special guest and Point of contact, COL TEL AUST Project

Today, 8th December 2019, Sunday morning, a five-day workshop titled “**Development of Blended Course using Moodle**” has launched at Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) to facilitate the systematic implementation of Technology Enabled Learning (TEL). The overall goal of this five-day workshop is to provide training for developing blended courses using different functionalities of the Moodle Learning Management System (LMS).

In order to keep pace with the Bangladesh Government’s Vision 2021 of “Digital Bangladesh” and to exploit the full potentials of demographic dividends, it is essential to engage the adequate number of working-age people into economic activities. About 60% of the working-age population are the youths who are growingly being frustrated as they are either not getting any job or expected jobs even after getting a university education. Lack of quality education and ICT skills are the prime factors behind the joblessness, according to the employers. Realizing the national priorities and global trends, AUST intends to implement TEL to improve its teaching and learning quality as well as ICT skills through the integration of ICTs into its courses.

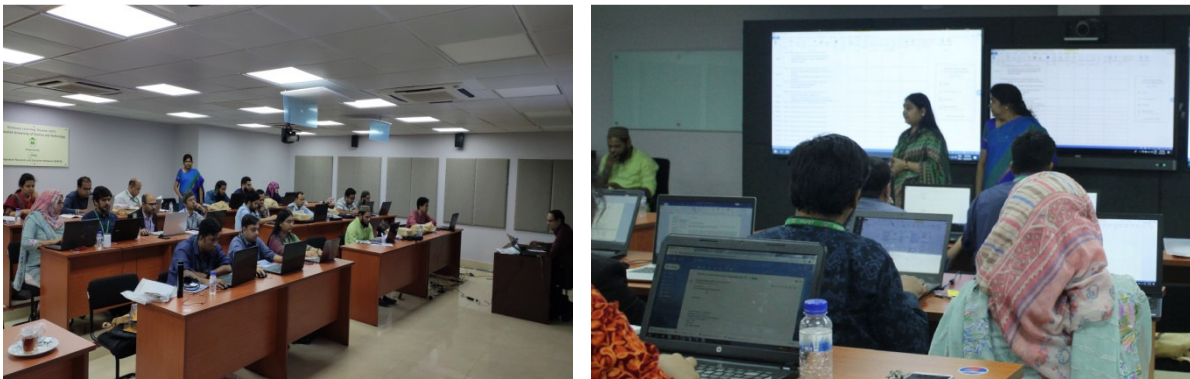
From January 2020, AUST will incorporate blended learning modules in 20 courses that were selected from the 8 departments of the university. These blended learning courses include two courses from Architecture department, two from BBA department, two courses from Civil Engineering department, three from CSE department, two courses from EEE department, one from ME department, one from IPE department, one core course of MPE department, two courses from TE department, one Chemistry course, one Physics course, one Math course and one English course. These courses are expected to improve student learning experiences and outcomes by providing them with flexible and interactive learning opportunities.



From top left, Program Chair, Prof. Dr. Md. Amanullah, Vice-Chancellor (in-charge) and Treasurer (in-charge), AUST; top right, Special Guest Prof. Dr. M. A. Muktadir, Dean and Faculty of Architecture and Planning, AUST, bottom left, Prof. Dr. Kazi A Kalpoma, Point of Contact, COL TEL AUST Project, & Head, CSE, AUST; and bottom right Dr. Indra Koneru, COL consultant and Head, Dept. of eLearning, IBS, India addressing the participants of the workshop.

The inauguration of the workshop began with a welcome address and warm greetings by **Prof. Dr. Kazi A Kalpoma**, Point of Contact, COL TEL AUST Project, & Head, CSE, AUST, who mentioned that the goal of this five-day workshop is to explore the different functionalities of the Moodle Learning Management System (LMS) which will assist participants in the preparation of twenty blended course designs. She also mentioned that the blended courses will integrate technology into existing courses to enhance the teaching and learning experience for teachers and students. This method of learning will enable both teachers and students to engage in ways that would not normally be available or effective in a traditional face-to-face classroom style. Moreover, the resources will be available for them to access from anywhere and anytime. Later,

Dr. Indira Koneru, COL consultant and Head, Dept. of eLearning, IBS, India, while addressing the gathering suggested selecting a student ambassador from each department to promote TEL among the students. She further emphasized that Blended Learning courses should be the three-way interaction between student-teacher, student-student, and student-materials. The Special Guest **Prof. Dr. M. A. Muktadir**, Dean and Faculty of Architecture and Planning, AUST was present and took the privilege to mention the importance of TEL for increasing accessibility. The workshop was formally opened by the Program Chair **Prof. Dr. Md. Amanullah**, Vice-Chancellor (in-charge) and Treasurer (in-charge), AUST, who in his humble speech assured to provide his sincere cooperation in the implementation of TEL in AUST during his tenure.



Instructors of the 20 selected courses attending the workshop