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### Message from Executive Director

Dear friends and colleagues:

As we wrap up another eventful year, I reflect on our progress and feel proud to have a dedicated group of trainers and a talented management team who have delivered high quality training programs consistently. We are honored that so many renowned institutions in the education and corporate sector have chosen to work with us and we are happy to report positive evaluation feedback from all of our programs! You can read more about what we have been up to below, and we hope you will contact us if you have any training or professional development needs; we will be happy to work with you to tailor training programs for your team.

Yours sincerely,

Madiha Murshed  
Executive Director

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### Coporate Professional Development and English Language Programs

The year 2014 started with a resumption of our learning partnership with **TUV SUD BD** and so far we have conducted workshops on effective office communication, how to work in teams and time management. The long term involvement with this organization has helped us to completely customize our workshops.

**Apollo Hospital** in Dhaka has given us the opportunity to tailor a course on Business English for their staff. We have previously worked with their sister concerns – DPS School and ISD (International School, Dhaka).



SPEED and **BCS** collaborated again; this time with one 2-day workshop on selling skills and one 3-day workshop on communication skills. It is always a pleasure working with the BCS member organizations which contribute actively in Bangladesh's IT industry.

We are continuing our learning partnership with **East West University** as well. We respect the career counseling office's effort in further preparing their students for the competitive job market. Their final year students participated in presentation skills workshops last year; this year we have done a number of workshops on interview skills and currently a large group of learners are taking part in a Business English course. These participants are all set to enter the job industry and we wish them the best of luck.



SPEED launched its first venture with **Modhumoti Bank Ltd**. The workshop was "Office Etiquette and Manners". The two day session was filled with activities, role plays, participation, and self assessments. The motivation reached sky high as the MD and CEO inaugurated the session and conveyed words of encouragement and possibilities. It was a pleasure working with Modhumoti Bank on this



project.

Our **speaking and pronunciation courses** have become the most demanded courses at SPEED! Right after the successful completion of the course in Dhanmondi, we have launched four more courses in Uttara and Gulshan. The same course with **Manarat Dhaka International College** just wrapped up in May with happy learners motivated to apply their developed skills at work.

Emotional Intelligence plays a huge role in career development of any professional. The concept is relatively new in our corporate world. SPEED feels proud that they have already worked with two renowned organizations on this topic. This year **Grameen Phone** took the initiative to offer an emotional intelligence workshop to some staff. The program was a joint collaboration of GP management and SPEED and trainers.



Participants from **Gemcon Group** enrolled in a Professional Development course which was developed with guidance from the members of Gemcon management. The course saw some highly motivated, knowledgeable and creative learners; it was a pleasure developing and conducting the session.



SPEED also conducted four batches of **presentation skills workshops** to develop the presentation skills of the faculty of different campuses of Scholastica. Since the faculty of Scholastica are now using technology in the classroom, these workshops were designed to help them prepare and deliver presentations effectively. In addition, for some members of the **Ascent Group** management, a 4-month Business English course was launched.

It has been a busy few months for the CPD and ELT team at SPEED and we look forward to another exciting year next year!



## Schools Program

Things have been very busy for the Schools Program team at SPEED!

We hosted a half-day open workshop on **“Computer Skills for Greater Efficiency in Teaching”** in May designed specifically for teachers to improve their computer skills. Participants attended the workshops from Voyager English Medium School, Banani Biddyaniketon, Maple Leaf Int'l School, DGIS-ICA International School and College and Scholastica.

At the start of the spring, we organized a **graduation ceremony** to celebrate the completion of a 24-hour workshop for the JAAGO Foundation, and the successful completion of the Cambridge International Diploma for Teachers & Trainers. Teachers from City University Dhaka, Chittagong Grammar School Dhaka, International School Dhaka and Scholastica were invited to the ceremony. Special thanks to Prof. Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences City University and Ms. Wasima Parveen, Chief Operating Officer, Scholastica for their encouraging and inspiring words at the ceremony.

### Bangladesh International School and College (BIS&C)

SPEED conducted a seven-day professional development course with twenty teachers from junior and senior sections of Bangladesh International School and College. The workshop was based on different vital areas of teaching skills.

### Adventist International Missionary School

SPEED conducted a ten-day long workshop with Adventist International



Missionary School (AIMS). The workshop was on essentials in best practices in teaching. The sessions touched on effective strategies for planning lessons, interactive teaching methods maximizing learner involvement, identifying learner needs, classroom management techniques as well as public speaking and grammar, interacting with audience and pronunciation.

Today, information and communications technologies infiltrate classrooms around the world at an exceedingly rapid pace. Educators in this era are facing growing challenges as they teach a smart group of students who use technology that is evolving every day. To help teachers overcome the challenges SPEED arranged a workshop on **“Improving Classroom learning by using effective resources.”** Participants who attended the workshop were from Sir John Wilson School and South Point School and College

### **Workshop with Regent College**

SPEED initiated a 2-hour workshop with Regent College on how to “plan lessons using different teaching methods to apply to differing learning styles.”

### **Pre-Service Certificate in Teaching Skills**

Spring brought great news for the participants of Pre-Service Certificate in Teaching Skills, who had successfully completed the course and secured teaching positions at different educational institutions.

### **Cambridge International Diploma for Teachers and Trainers (CIDTT)**

As always, we continued to offer courses leading towards CIDTT, a diploma provided by Cambridge International Examinations.

### **Important Announcement Regarding CIDTT**

The syllabus for the CIDTT is changing considerably. From September 2014, SPEED will offer the Diploma, newly called Cambridge International Diploma in Teaching and Learning. We will also offer the Cambridge Certificate in Teaching and Learning, which is a shorter course.

Please contact the Schools Program for more details.



## **Youth Development Program**



SPEED Youth’s annual Arts Festival was held on February 28, with a number of schools competing to win the title. With Lyra as the product sponsor, Spectra Convention Centre sponsoring the venue and with bdnews24.com as the media partner, it was exciting to witness this affair of young artists as they came together under one roof to share their ideas, expertise and creativity and to create something magical on the themes of ‘Animal Planet’ and ‘Being a Child in 2014’.

The festival served as an excellent method for getting students interested in both the issues facing our community and art, and gave them a productive and enjoyable diversion from their normal school activities, while educating them about best practices to help our environment and our country.

Since it was a school competition, we saw a diverse group of students from different schools participate. Participating schools included Scholastica, DPS STS school, Playpen School, Green Dale International, The City School, Little Steps Art School and Maple Bear School.

The Festival was graced by our Chief Guest, the famous cartoon artist Mr. Ahsan Habib and our Chief Judge Mr. A.S.M Rezaur Rahman, the GM of Drik Gallery, who motivated and encouraged the students with their inspiring words and took their confidence to a different level.



Finally, the 1<sup>st</sup> place in the competition from the Juniors group was secured by Maheer Tazwar Moin Abir from Green Dale International School and from the Seniors group Faiaz Irfan from Green Dale International School. Second position was won by Ayesha Ahmed Khan from DPS STS School from the Juniors and Sameen Yasar from DPS STS from the Seniors.

**Fun Under the Monsoon Sun** is a program under SPEED Youth, the youth wing of SPEED. It is a four-week program which has been held every year for the past 5 years. This year, for the sixth time, SPEED Youth is geared up to launch the program again during the summer vacation of schools. It is a program for students of ages 6-14 years. This program provides youth with the unique opportunity to engage in a number of different experiences and spend a socially and physically intensive, as well as academically challenging month.



Our program offers a well-structured and safe environment for young people to participate in activities ranging from soccer, basketball, debate, guitar, math games, science, theatre, graphic designing, creative writing, entrepreneurship and lots more! Our program also includes a field trip to Fantasy Kingdom and a mega carnival, to have that extra bit of fun besides learning and being out of the campus for a change. At the end of the program, a graduation ceremony is held showcasing the skills the students have learned throughout the summer and they receive completion certificates.



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