

## Bangladesh Faculty Training Workshop

A Summary of the workshop by

Sridevi Prasad

Program & Publications Assistant, Institute for South Asia Studies

After a competitive application process, eight scholars from high-ranking institutions in Bangladesh were selected to participate in the faculty training workshop on writing and publishing in the U.S. In October 2016, five scholars came for a one-week residency at the Subir and Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies (three were unable to attend due to health and visa issues). Co-sponsored by the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies and the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka, and hosted by the Subir and Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies, this workshop provided a space for junior faculty from Bangladesh to learn about research methodologies, writing and the publishing process from UC Berkeley faculty.

Drs. Mohammad Jalal Uddin Sikder (University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh), Mubashar Hasan (North South University), Abdul Hannan Pradhan (Shahajalal University of Science and Technology), Shanawez Hossain (BRAC University), and Rabiul Islam (University of Dhaka) arrived at UC Berkeley on Tues, October 11 for their one week residency at the Chowdhury Center. On the first day of the workshop led by Professor Isha Ray, the faculty learned how to hone their research design, to deconstruct a paper and how to present their own research. The following day, they were able to explore the UC Berkeley campus, attend a library tour led by the South Asian librarian Adnan Malik, and explore San Francisco, a city that many of the scholars were visiting for the first time.

The second substantive day of the workshop was led by Professors Clare Talwalker and Raka Ray who focused on writing a strong introduction and qualitative methods respectively. The faculty then spent a day at the Institute of International Studies with Professor Pradeep Chhibber and graduate students, Anustubh Agnihotra and Anirvan Chowdhury, learning how to best use quantitative methods and how to develop their surveys. After an independent study day where the scholars focused on revising their papers, Professors Poulomi Saha and Abhishek Kaicker led workshops on how to conduct literature review and how to frame the theoretical constructs of their papers as well as how to perform archival research and the software available to maintain citations.

On the final day of the workshop at UC Berkeley, Dr. Sanchita Saxena, provided a summary of the topics covered in the previous days and used the scholars' papers and revisions to show how the material was being incorporated into the individual papers. Professor Talwalker returned to provide tips on the publishing process. The workshop at UC Berkeley ended with the public lecture by Professor Ali Riaz.

Following the end of the workshop at UC Berkeley, the faculty traveled to Madison, WI where they presented their final workshoped papers at a pre-conference organized by the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies.

The Subir and Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies really enjoyed being able to host these five phenomenal scholars from Bangladesh and we look forward to similar workshops in the future!