

IELE Wins ALO Grant

IELE won the grant for Partnership to Strengthen Local Capacity for Economic, Financial and Social Analysis of Energy Sector Initiatives program of Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development. This partnership is dedicated to help enhance energy economics curriculum and expertise at the Department of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Engineering at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET/PMRE) in Dhaka.

IELE will use the \$120,000 grant to enhance the educational and research capabilities of the BUET/PMRE through training sessions in Houston and Bangladesh, exchange visits of the Institute and BUET/PMRE faculty, and continuous mentoring. In particular, IELE will:

- Analyze BUET/PMRE's existing energy economics courses, and help the department develop the curriculum that is most appropriate to circumstance in Bangladesh without neglecting the principles of energy economics and finance.
- Adapt Institute's energy economics courses to BUET/PMRE needs.
- Host a couple of BUET/PMRE faculty at UH to attend energy classes a full semester and guest lecture towards the end for practice.
- Have a couple of BUET/PMRE faculty participate in IELE's annual international training program, *New Era in Oil, Gas & Power Value Creation*.
- Strengthen research capacity of PMRE faculty by conducting joint research projects in Houston and Bangladesh, and by providing access to data and information.
- Facilitate a dialogue of BUET/PRME researchers with UH research facilities in the field.
- Appoint a principal contact for close coordination with BUET/PMRE after the expiration of the current grant period.

The program is designed to help BUET/PMRE establish a long-term link with the UH to share experience and learn teaching and research approaches and topics. It will also provide easy and direct access to developed and tested training and outreach programs such as *New Era*, energy courses taught at UH and vast Institute research material resources, contacts, and ideas. Finally, BUET/PMRE faculty and students will have increased opportunities to interact and form close relationships with key leaders in the global energy industry.

IELE, in turn, will use the partnership activities to expand access to the *New Era* programs of specialists working not only in Bangladesh but possibly in greater Southeast Asia. IELE will also establish new contacts for its continuous research activities and collect information from the region for future dissemination among interested companies to facilitate market activities.

Overall, this partnership is a great opportunity for IELE to expand the global reach of its capacity-building efforts in commercial frameworks for energy development.