

Short bios of the Presenters

Md. Jahid Hossain

Md. Jahid Hossain is a Lecturer in the Department of Pharmacy at East West University (EWU), Dhaka, Bangladesh. He earned his Master of Pharmacy in Pharmaceutical Technology and Bachelor of Pharmacy from University of Dhaka. Prior to joining EWU, he served as an Officer in Research and Development at Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd., where he performed analytical testing of raw materials and finished products, prepared R&D documentation, and gained extensive hands-on experience in HPLC, GC-MS, and DSC. He has authored 9 peer-reviewed and scopus indexed journal publications and presented at 6 conference proceedings. His research interests include bioactivity-guided natural product discovery, phytochemistry, nanotechnology and advanced drug delivery.

Md. Zahirul Islam

Md. Zahirul Islam is an accomplished academic and researcher with a passion for teaching and exploring innovative solutions to global health challenges. He earned both his Bachelor of Pharmacy and Master of Pharmacy with Thesis degrees from the University of Rajshahi (RU)

Throughout his academic journey, he received several accolades, including the prestigious Dean's Award-2021 and the Rajshahi University Merit Scholarship in 2017 and 2019 for his outstanding undergraduate results. He was also awarded the “Narsingdi Zilla Parishod Scholarship” for distinguished results both in HSC and SSC. Just after completing M.Pharm.(Thesis) in March 2023, Mr. Rafi began his teaching career as a Lecturer at the University of Information Technology and Sciences (UITs) and later, joined East West University (EWU) as a faculty member in January 2024. Till now he has been teaching here and he enjoys teaching microbiology, organic chemistry, molecular biology, biochemistry, and pharmacology. Mr. Rafi possesses an unwavering eagerness on research from the very beginning of his undergraduate level and his interests focuses on strategies of combating antimicrobial resistance, discovering natural and synthetic drug leads, discovering molecular mechanisms of diseases and drugs, computational chemistry and bioinformatics.

Dr. Chowdhury Faiz Hossain

Dr. Chowdhury Faiz Hossain is a Professor in the Department of Pharmacy at East West University. He earned his Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from Dhaka University in 1987. He then obtained his Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Doctor of Pharmaceutical Sciences degrees from Chiba University in Japan in 1991 and 1994, respectively. During his doctoral studies, he discovered a series of novel small-molecule natural products that possess selective monoamine-B inhibitory activity from the fungus *Monascus anka*.

After completing his doctorate, Dr. Hossain worked as a Research Scientist in the Department of Pharmacognosy at the National Institute of Health Science (NIHS) in Japan for three years. In 1996, he joined the Department of Pharmacy at Dhaka University as an Assistant Professor directly and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2000. In the same year, he was invited to serve as a Visiting Scientist at the National Center for Natural Products Research (NCNPR) at

the University of Mississippi in the USA, collaborating with Professor Alice Clark's research group until the end of 2005. Dr. Hossain played a crucial role in several federally funded anticancer research projects at the University of Mississippi. He discovered and characterized various new anti-tumor agents that selectively block the hypoxia-inducible factor-1 α (HIF-1 α) in breast tumor cells. He also identified a series of dineolignans, known as manassantins, from an aquatic plant, which are the most potent inhibitors of HIF-1 α reported to date. His research resulted in two US patents and several peer-reviewed publications. One notable article on the discovery of laurenditerpenol, published in the Journal of Natural Products, was awarded the Jack L. Beal Award by the American Society of Pharmacognosy for being the best manuscript published in 2004.

After returning from the USA, Dr. Hossain joined Manarat International University as an Associate Professor and Head of the Department in March 2006. He became a full Professor in June 2006. In January 2009, he joined East West University as a Professor. Throughout his tenure at the university, he has served in various capacities, including Dean of the Faculty of Sciences and Engineering for two and a half years, Chairperson of the Department of Pharmacy for seven and a half years, and as a member of the Syndicate and Finance Committee for two and a half years, respectively. He has also been a member of EWU's Academic Council for the last 16 years. Prof. Hossain received a Certificate of Excellence from East West University in 2009 in recognition of his outstanding academic and research contributions. He was honored with the Bangladesh Education Leadership Award in 2019, recognizing him as the Best Professor in Pharmacy Studies by the World Education Congress. Additionally, in 2025, he received East West University's Faculty-Level Best Researcher Award as the top-ranked researcher in the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

Dr. Md. Mohiuddin Kabir

Dr. Mohiuddin Kabir completed his both B. Sc. (Honours) and M. Sc. (Thesis) degrees from the Department of Microbiology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, and obtained "Dean's Award" during his undergraduate study. After graduation, he was selected as a Postgraduate Fellow by the Bangladesh Ministry of Education to study at the Kazan State University, Russia. He earned Doctor of Engineering degree in 2003 from the Department of Bioscience and Bioinformatics, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan. After completing his doctoral degree, he was employed as an Assistant Professor at the same Institute. In 2005, Dr. Kabir migrated to USA by accepting a postdoctoral position at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He had also worked as a Research Scientist at the NASA Ames Research Center, USA and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. He is currently working as an Associate Professor in the Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, East West University, Bangladesh.