

DU teacher sacked for sexual harassment

Another suspended over plagiarism allegations

DU CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka University (DU) teacher of the political science department has been sacked for sexually harassing a student while another of Islamic history and culture suspended following a departmental inquiry into plagiarism allegations.

Both decisions were taken at a syndicate meeting on Tuesday, syndicate member Prof Maksud Kamal told The Daily Star yesterday.

Initially sent on forced leave in 2011, Dr Amran Hossain, an associate professor, was sacked on being found guilty, he said.

The punishment showed DU's zero tolerance towards such moral degradation,

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said Maksud, also president of DU Teacher's Association.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (VC) (Education) Prof Nasreen Ahmad, head of DU anti-sexual harassment cell, said, "It took five years as we had to conduct a proper investigation through fact finding, inquiry and hold a trial apart from our regular academic activities."

Two Turkish professors informed the Islamic department, accusing Muhammad Omor Faruk, an assistant professor, of passing off their research as his own in his PhD thesis.

A five-member committee led by the pro-VC (education) has been formed to investigate the allegation and understand the gravity of the misconduct.

"...he will be barred from all academic activities and getting full salary," said Maksud, also a member of the committee.