Editorial

Synthesizing the Future at the 7th ICIS

Prof. Dr. Afroza Bulbul

Director of Research and Publications, IOU

The successful conclusion of the **7th International Conference on Integrated Sciences (ICIS 2025)**, held on **October 25th and 26th**, marks a pivotal moment in the global academic calendar. Jointly organized by **Eastern University (EU)**, Bangladesh, and the **International Open University (IOU)**, The Gambia, this year's conference transcended the traditional boundaries of research. By adopting the ambitious theme, **"Integrating Artificial Intelligence in Science, Business, and Islamic Paradigms,"** the 7th ICIS has set a new benchmark for interdisciplinary dialog in the digital age.

A Hybrid Nexus for Global Thought

The dual-mode format of the conference—in-person at the Eastern University campus in Ashulia and virtually via a global digital platform—effectively democratized the exchange of ideas. With over 400 papers submitted, the event drew a vibrant tapestry of scholars, industry leaders, and students. This logistical feat, spearheaded by Chief Patron **Professor Dr. Farid A. Sobhani** (Vice-Chancellor, EU) and Conference Chair **Professor Dr. Muhammad Ahsan** (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, IOU), underscored a crucial reality in 2025: integration is not just a theoretical goal but an operational necessity.

[1]

AI Through an Ethical Lens

While the rapid advancement of **Artificial Intelligence** dominated many sessions, the discourse remained refreshingly grounded. Unlike many technology-centric forums, ICIS 2025 did not view AI in a vacuum. Keynote speaker **Dr. Muhammad Imadur Rahman** and other luminaries explored the synergy between algorithmic efficiency and human-centric values. A standout feature of the conference was the emphasis on **Islamic Paradigms**, examining how ethical frameworks from Islamic scholarship can guide the responsible deployment of GenAI and autonomous systems.

Breaking the Silos

The conference tracks were as diverse as they were rigorous, covering:

- **Sustainable Development & Climate Change:** Addressing the "triple planetary crisis" through data-driven solutions.

- **Islamic Banking and Economics:** Exploring how fintech and AI can foster ethical finance.

- **Life Sciences & Biotechnology:** Utilizing bioinformatics and AI to revolutionize public health.

This "integrated" approach is the only viable path forward for solving what scholars call "wicked problems"—challenges like global inequality and ecological degradation that no single discipline can resolve alone.

[2]

Rewarding Excellence

The event also served as a launchpad for the next generation of researchers. Through the **Research Excellence Awards**, sponsored by Dreamers Academy Australia, the conference recognized ten outstanding contributors from Bangladesh and abroad. These awards, alongside the **Best Paper Awards**, highlight the commitment of EU and IOU to fostering a culture of high-impact research.

The Road Ahead

As the delegates return to their respective institutions, the legacy of the 7th ICIS will be measured by the collaborations it sparked. The papers published in the *Journal of Integrated Sciences* will serve as a roadmap for practitioners looking to bridge the gap between technological innovation and ethical responsibility.

In an era where technology often moves faster than our ability to govern it, the 7th ICIS has reminded us that the "Integrated" in "Integrated Sciences" must always include the human spirit.

[3]