

## NOTICE BOARD

# AIUB hosts talk with EU Ambassador Michael Miller

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) hosted a special event titled "Let's Talk with the EU Ambassador", featuring Michael Miller, the Ambassador of the European Union to Bangladesh, at the university's campus on April 29.

Themed "EU-Bangladesh Relations in a Changing World: Youth Perspectives on Partnership and Progress", the event provided an engaging platform for AIUB's young future leaders, where students and faculty members from various departments participated in a roundtable discussion with the EU Ambassador. Key topics discussed included education and skills development, climate action and green transition, governance, democracy and human rights, and global security and contemporary challenges. Following the roundtable, the AIUB Performing Arts Club (APAC) honoured the EU Ambassador with a special performance.

Also present at the event was Jui Chakma, Programme Manager for TVET and Erasmus+ at the EU Delegation to Bangladesh, who shared valuable insights into the wide array of opportunities available under the Erasmus+ scholarship programme.

The event was graced by the university's top leadership, including Nadia Anwar, Founder Member and Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Ishtiaque Abedin, Founder Member of the Board of Trustees; Shania Abedin, Member of the



Board of Trustees; Prof. Dr Saiful Islam, Vice Chancellor; Prof. Dr Md Abdur Rahman, Pro Vice-Chancellor; Gp Capt (Retd) Dr Mohammad Zahidul Islam Khan, Registrar; and Dr S A M Manzur H Khan, Proctor. Deans, associate deans, directors, and senior officials of AIUB were also in attendance.

During the official meeting with Michael Miller, future collaboration between AIUB and the European Union were discussed, which may be implemented by expanding academic cooperation through greater participation in

Erasmus+, Horizon Europe and Jean Monnet programmes, strengthening climate and research collaboration via joint platforms on sustainability and environmental law, reducing barriers to mobility, and deepening cultural and educational ties.

The event highlighted AIUB's ongoing commitment to fostering global academic relations and providing a platform for youth engagement in international policy and cooperation.

# North South University commemorates "World Intellectual Property Day" with seminar on IP law

The Department of Law, North South University (NSU) celebrated "World Intellectual Property Day" with a seminar on contemporary intellectual property (IP) law on April 30. The keynote speaker for this session was Prof. Niloufer Selvadurai from Macquarie Law School, who joined virtually. The featured speakers included Advocate Saquib Rahman, Senior Lecturer, Department of Law, NSU, and Mahua Zahur, Director, Center for Learning Intellectual Property (CLIP).

Prof. Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, NSU, chaired the session. The Special Guest was Prof. Abdur Rob Khan, Treasurer and Pro Vice-Chancellor (IC), NSU. Faculty members and students from the Department of Law attended the session.

Prof. Selvadurai spoke on the topic "The IP Issue of Our Era – Patent Protection For AI-Generated Inventions", where she discussed the issues surrounding whether AI shall be acknowledged as an inventor in patent law. She further analysed statutory reforms in the context of using personal pronouns to exclude AI inventors.

Mahua Zahur spoke on the topic "IP and Music: An Assessment of the Prospects of the Music Industry in Light of the Copyright Act, 2023". Her speech highlighted the work done in public domains and the protection



of folkloric works, while also criticising the inadequate security measures for audiovisual performers.

Advocate Saquib Rahman spoke on "Dilution by Blurring: Bangladesh's Ignorance". He described why dilution-by-blurring is a conceptually difficult area of trademark law, and that the courts in Bangladesh have

not recognised blurring as of yet, concluding that the concept's inclusion in the Trademark Act of 2009 is a crying need.

Dr Ishtiaque Ahmed, Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of Law, delivered the introductory remarks, where he expressed gratitude to the distinguished guests for gracing the occasion with their presence and the continuous evolution of IP law in the legal and social context.

Prof. Md Rizwanul Islam, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and Professor, Department of Law, observed that Bangladesh should not view the protection of intellectual property from a binary point of view, which entails protecting the interest of foreign intellectual property rights holders at the expense of the consumers of Bangladesh. He opined that Bangladesh should emphasise enforcing intellectual property rights, *inter alia*, to encourage creativity and attract foreign investment.

The Session Chair, Prof. Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, recognised the valuable insights surrounding IP law from the seminar. Prof. Abdur Rob Khan acknowledged the Department of Law for organising such an academic event.