

## From the Office of the Vice Chancellor

12-VII-MMVI

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, Faculty, and Staff:

It is with a heavy heart that I address you given the deeply shocking occurrences that have befallen our nation recently. Without dwelling on the tragic details of the barbaric incidents, let me state that the events have set us back as a country, as a nation, and as a member of the world community.

In such a sad and bleak moment we can only offer our deepest condolences and prayers to the families who have been affected by this horrific act of extremism and terrorism. It was with horror and disbelief that we all came to learn, during the Eid break, that two individual attackers involved in the two separate incidents were once students at NSU.

In my capacity as Vice Chancellor, I have directed all academic and administrative department heads to fully cooperate and comply strictly with all government policies and directives with immediate effect. Many of our faculty members and administrative personnel have been working without interruption though their Eid break helping law enforcement agencies of the land. We will continue to do whatever we possibly can in order to assist these agencies to ensure that those responsible for these heinous acts are brought to justice. I believe our efforts will not go in vain.

We have further tightened our campus security measures, and have oriented staff to become more vigilant and alert. The understanding and full cooperation of all members of the NSU family is warranted in this regard for the safety of all. We have also enlarged our professional team of counselors to help students, faculty members, and staff who may feel traumatized by these recent events. Please do not hesitate to ask for any assistance that you may need in the coming days from your respective schools, departments, the medical center, and offices of the Registrar, IT, or PR.

Our international faculty members and students are invaluable to the enrichment of our academic environment. During this difficult time the Office of External Affairs will continue to be committed to ensuring their welfare under my direct supervision until further notice.

While I share the pain with all of you, I would also like to remind you that it is in times like this that we need to recall our purpose which is to uphold the highest academic standards in teaching, learning, and research, and to create ethical and enlightened thinkers for the future of our country. Our dedicated faculty and staff will continue to go beyond their call of duty to fulfill this purpose. Given the immense strength and character of the NSU community, I guarantee, together we will rise above these terrible circumstances and prevail over these evil forces that are leading to the destruction and fragmentation of our country and its youth.

Despite these trying circumstances, I would sincerely like to welcome you all back, and look forward to the conclusion of a successful semester.

Atiqul Islam  
Vice Chancellor