



MINUTES

Student Senate Meeting 07 February 2024, 2:30 PM CKB Agile Strategy Lab

1. Attendance
2. Previous Minutes
 - a. Approved to be published
3. Public Forum
 - a. Kristie Damell
 - i. Associate Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator
 1. Work with dean of students
 2. Head of Title IX
 3. Support person for anyone who is not sure of who to ask
 - b. Brittany Gaviria
 - i. Prevention Specialist
 1. Confidential advocate for sexual/dating violence
 2. Also able to support those close to them
 3. Any way to help support survivors
 4. Here to be an advocate for all of you
 5. Separate from DOS
 6. All about love event next week in Agile Lab
4. Old Business
 - a. First-Year Representative
 - i. Jainam Shah
 1. Intro:
 - a. Want students to see abundance of student opportunities
 - b. Difficult for them to see the clubs they want to join
 - i. Solution is for newsletter to display unique programs to see different clubs
 - c. Students need to engage more with other students
 - i. Events to integrate the first-years like saturday olympics
 2. Questions:
 - a. Clubs not found easily, a lot of clubs already advertise, so how would you advertise differently?
 - i. Individuals come to college to find new interests, sometimes people don't know what they want until they see it, so these clubs need to be out more for those who are not actively looking for it
 - b. People coming into NJIT should have access to a website with a list of all of the clubs
 - c. What past experiences do you have?
 - i. A part of student government in hs, passed student water fountains and events laws, we enhanced a



community in general, which can be applied to NJIT as a whole

3. Conclusion:

- a. Really excited to be running, will be making impact on NJIT and make change, hear what unique ideas we should work on

ii. Steve Limaymanta Perez

1. Intro:

- a. First-year general engineering students, researched the position, reached out to current first-year reps, feedback form and sent to EOP/SOP to know their relationship with senate (Response showed they weren't familiar with senate or their reps), want to bridge gap

2. Questions:

- a. Initiatives to better transition, especially for transfer students?
 - i. Collaborate with orgs, less comprehensive than spring transitions like SHPE and hacks, can work with other orgs like NSBE and ASE
- b. Gauge relation between orgs like living communities, advising centers and senate, shows they're unfamiliar with senate and would like to be liaison between them
- c. Reached out to first-year reps about events to get some improvements, what are those improvements?
 - i. Would like to help students build resumes, connect them with companies

3. Conclusion:

- a. Thank you for opportunity, believe that research and effort shows how he will serve community

iii. Krishi Shah

1. Intro:

- a. Elected eboard for 3 clubs, finalist in business comp, research position
- b. Add more activities to welcome week, heard from students
- c. First-year carnival with interactive components
- d. Mental health/wellness issue

2. Questions:

- a. Classwork is lighter than it is now, more welcome activities to transition from break to school, can be smaller set events
- b. You're involved on-campus, how do you plan on managing time?
 - i. wednesdays are off, effective managing schedule, eboard meetings are online

3. Conclusion:



- a. Know what first-years need, support is needed throughout change, will enhance these experiences, bonding will make a memorable first-year for them
- iv. Faith Colaco
 - 1. No show
- v. Questions for everyone:
 - 1. Time will fly this year, how will you accomplish these goals?
 - a. Jainam:
 - i. Want to all effectively compromise and communicate, effective manner will get things done in efficient time
 - b. Steve:
 - i. Using first-years past experiences and my personal struggles and other students struggles
 - ii. Move quickly using communication that senate provides like google groups and Instagram and find students to participate and have as many students included
 - c. Krishi:
 - i. Can combine ideas and make a essential item together that will benefit NJIT
 - ii. Goal will probably be same
 - iii. Access it properly with team work
 - 2. Current issue is with registration, what ideas do you have relating to that? (communication resulting in advisor hold not being known and being delayed in registerings)
 - a. Jainam:
 - i. Hold general meetings for first-years, a lot of emails to be reaching out, formal process, without information - students won't know
 - b. Steve:
 - i. Use EOP advising center as resource, make things easier to find for students
 - c. Krishi:
 - i. Emails but also in classes, major advisor should come in and speak, teacher should also ask students to show emails received
 - 3. What sets you apart from other 2 candidates?
 - a. Jainam:
 - i. Commitment and resolve, would bring a level of commitment to the committee, brought 2 viable solutions, make sure first-years and other students have voices heard, foster a more enhanced NJIT
 - b. Steve:



- i. I want to be someone they can talk to, reach out to very often personally, be someone they can rely on to help them
 - c. Krishi:
 - i. Have been really involved, know how to effectively communicate
- vi. Voting
 - 1. Jainam: 8
 - 2. Steve: 17
 - 3. Krishi: 3
 - 4. Abstain: 1
 - 5. No confidence: 0
 - a. No supermajority
- vii. Reopened discussion:
 - 1. First option is steve, valuable
 - 2. Jainam and krishi are talking about why they're good to be position, but steve talked about what he would do
- viii. Revote
 - 1. Jainam: 5
 - 2. Steve: 18
 - 3. Krishi: 2
 - 4. Abstain: 1
 - 5. No confidence: 0
 - a. Steve is first rep!
- ix. Third vote
 - 1. Jainam: 12
 - 2. Krishi: 5
 - 3. Abstain: 2
 - 4. No confidence: 4
 - a. Not super majority
- x. Discussion
 - 1. Jainam better, more concrete
 - 2. Krishi had good ideas, mental health idea
 - 3. Jainam mentioned events to engage with first-years, mentioned activities within dorm
 - 4. Jainam has experience coming into it, passed student government proposals
 - 5. Krishi's ideas for next year, Jainam's enthusiasm is admired
 - 6. Jainam dry in responses, both iffy, not specific
 - 7. Mental health is critical issue but current first-years are working toward it already
- xi. Revote
 - 1. Jainam: 18
 - 2. Krishi: 3
 - 3. Abstain: 1
 - 4. No confidence: 2



- a. Jainam is new first-year rep
 - xii. Jainam and steve are first two reps
- 5. New Business
 - a. Swearing in
 - i. Jhanvi Pai
 - 1. Computing & Business
 - a. Sworn in!
 - ii. Anthony Rodriguez Diaz
 - 1. Newark College of Engineering
 - a. Sworn in!
 - b. Constitutional Amendment: Officer's Restriction
 - i. Jenny Ramzi
 - 1. Eboard on senate cannot be eboard on any club on campus, specifically for senate-recognized organizations during duration of terms
 - 2. Exclude anything that has no relation to senate
 - 3. Point of information: makes it less intensive, just makes it clarified
 - a. Tabled
 - ii. Questions:
 - 1. Why don't we include outside eboards?
 - a. Senate doesn't cover them, does not give them funds or in our systems, no reason to not do both, no conflict
 - b. Point of information: rule is in place so no unnecessary bias
 - iii. Vote:
 - 1. Approve
 - 2. Not approve
 - 3. Abstain
 - c. Vacancies
 - i. Hillier College of Architecture and Design
 - 1. Shahd Ali Elsayed Ali
 - a. Intro:
 - i. Previously held architecture representative, working with previous HCAD rep, working on HCAD issues, reviewing proposal with provost, have been working on HCAD issues in general
 - b. Questions:
 - i. How has communication been with HCAD dean and how would you go about pushing forward dean's scholar program within HCAD?
 - 1. Communication has been strong, been heavily involved in process with them
 - 2. Can communicate together to target issues
 - 3. Proposal to minimize burden of HCAD hidden fees on students
 - c. Conclusion:
 - i. Thank you



- d. Tabled
- ii. Financial Technology Representative
 - 1. Zeynep Kus
 - a. Intro:
 - i. Want to hold hands-on learning course, aim to connect industry leaders with students, collaborate with business team to set up support groups, exploring dual-language classes, have strong connects with faculty, service & leadership
 - b. Questions:
 - i. Mentioned MTSM fair, elaborate on it and how different from career fair?
 - 1. Biannual, companies coming to NJIT, panels and hands-on experience competitions, more intimate than career fair
 - ii. Elaborate more on young leaders over horizon?
 - 1. High school initiative, upset about how education is not enough without career connections, CEO have come in to talk to
 - iii. Curriculum issues and how to fix?
 - 1. No hands-on experience courses, i work for dean's office, we want to replace career planning, software app called repin where companies give their projects and students can choose projects to work on, good to explore
 - c. Conclusion:
 - i. Will use classwork in real life, experience in dean's office to uplift, bridge between fellow peers and administration
 - 2. Paolo Nunez
 - a. Intro:
 - i. Already active member on campus, founder & drummer of soma's band, fin tech club, know what students need
 - ii. Very little opportunity given to MTSM for career fair and in general
 - iii. Will work with MTSM dean for internships and club issues
 - b. Questions:
 - i. As you're already active on campus a lot, how will you manage time?
 - 1. Schedule classes to be online, organize when practice is, cleared out time slots easily



- ii. Issues noticed is less opportunity for business students, how will resolve?
 - 1. CDS will coordinate with more companies, being in unique position with a connection will help provide more students with beneficial opportunities, expand firms available
 - iii. Curriculum issues and how to fix?
 - 1. Need more literacy to use SQL more and java, incorporate more, good for resume and opportunities
 - c. Conclusion:
 - i. Work with MTSM dean, provide club opportunities, fulfill major rep well
- 3. Shanell Encalada
 - a. Intro:
 - i. Limited number of fintech orgs, recently fintech clubs, want to foster more clubs, increase more fintech companies connections, reach out to students for what they need, only certification offered is bloomberg, department feedback
 - b. Questions:
 - i. How do you plan to increase visibility beyond fintech club?
 - 1. So many computing clubs, not enough clubs for fintech, would help people start more fintech clubs, reach out to alum to get more guest speakers, get more acknowledgement from bigger businesses to get more opportunities for fintech students
 - ii. Curriculum issues and how to fix?
 - 1. Lack of opportunities, no internship/job, more finance courses, more certifications offered, morningstar, alpha, certifications and courses can help connect them more to corporate world
 - c. Conclusion:
 - i. Determined to serve as dependable fintech rep, meet with dean monthly, goal to represent fintech and contribute to growth
- 4. tabled

6. Announcements

- a. Next Meeting
 - i. February 6
 - 1. CKB Agile Strategy Lab



Constitutional Amendment: Officer's Restriction

SECTION 4 - Restrictions on Officers

1. No officer shall serve on the executive board of any Senate recognized student organization during the duration of their term. This shall not be construed to mean selective organizations.
2. A decision of the President may be rendered invalid if a motion is made and receives two-thirds support of voting members in attendance of the NJIT Student Senate at which such decision is announced.

First-Year Representative
Jainam Shah



Hello! My name is Jainam Shah, and I am a first-year computer science major at the Albert Dorman Honors College. Stepping into college my first semester, I knew that no matter what happened, I wanted to be involved with student life. Unfortunately, I was unable to run before, but seeing that two spots have opened up, I would be honored to join now. Being a part of my high school executive committee for three years, I understand the numerous wheels turning to make the senate work as effectively as they do. It is not a walk in the park to make sure all of NJIT's problems can be acknowledged and rectified swiftly. As a first-year representative, I want to work with my 6 other officers to reach out to the first-year class and make sure some of their plights are heard. Some of the issues that have been brought to my attention are the game room timings, and how they rarely adhere to the schedule posted. Not only that but at the time when students are finally done with classes and homework.

Steve Limaymanta Perez

My name is Steve Limaymanta and I am a First-Year General Engineering student. As a first generation student who is a part of the SOP program, my goal is to help students with my specific background. An issue I've noticed is the events catered to spring transfers are significantly less elaborate in comparison to Fall due to the lower rates of incoming students. This causes transfers to lose vital time being introduced to departments and communities as they are not advertised well during the spring. Since there are no NCE First-Year rep, I'd also like to be the voice of the engineering community for First-Years, especially those who identify as underrepresented minorities. An event idea I have is to work with Senate to highlight the student organizations and programs that serve to assist students who have little to no prior guidance in their academic career. This idea can soon branch out to other colleges and focuses like research or internship prep for all First-Years in the future.

Krishi Shah

Hi! My name is Krishi Shah and I'm a first year computer science major, aiming to finish my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in CS within 4 years. Last semester, I was voted e-board for NJIT WiCS, Gigabeats, Saavan, and am currently shadowing the president of SWE. With interest in business, software, and music, I created an app that monitors stock prices, won 1st place Peer Recognition Award in Honors Interdisciplinary Research Forum, am currently researching audio-music technology under the guidance of a professor, and am invited to NJIT Lean Startup Accelerator 2024 by pitching my idea, Sustainable Micro Farming Networks (SuMFN) as a finalist of New Business Model Competition 2023. If selected for first-year rep, I aim to promote more health and wellness initiatives, boost overall student advocacy and representation, and increase student engagement by hosting more events like cultural exchange fairs, DIY workshops, etc. I'm excited to be a candidate and can't wait to meet new people!

Faith Colaco

I am Faith Colaco and I'm a Freshman entered Spring this year, majoring in Biology. I have been a part of Student Council for 5 years in my elementary and high school, where I really gained a lot experience regarding leadership, teamwork and most importantly it helped me meet and interact with new people. Talking about NJIT, I think I am capable to be a role model for my classmates when it comes to helping them with academics or understanding the problems they have as first years, or being a liaison between my classmates and the executive department. I would help them take full advantages of the resources like tutoring or taking part in various clubs offered so that they have a smooth transition into college. As far as Biology is concerned, I was wondering, that we could probably discuss certain topics together in the form of activities such as making models, having trivia nights or doing experiments to basically help understand the concepts and solve doubts in a fun way.

Hillier College of Architecture and Design

Shahd Ali Elsayed Ali



My name is Shahd Ali, I previously held the position of Architecture representative. I concentrated on architecture-related concerns while serving as an Architecture representative, but I couldn't help but get interested in broader HCAD subjects as well. I personally brought up the problems that students have been facing with advising in HCAD since there is only one adviser per student and the registration and appointment-setting process is inefficient. I've prepared a formal proposal on a new HCAD advising procedure that is presently being examined with Academic Affairs' assistance. Along with gathering information on hidden fees associated with various HCAD programs, I'm collaborating with Academic Affairs to secure additional funding for students' material purchases. Overall I think I have been focusing a lot on helping HCAD as a whole and learning about the HCAD representative position through the previous HCAD representative.

Financial Technology Representative

Zeynep Kus

I co-founded Smart Home School and Young Leaders Over the Horizon, helping young people learn about technology and leadership. As an Advisory Board Member at Talents for Future, I've worked on programs that teach high school students about the tech and business world. Recently, as a Graphic Designer/Social Media Specialist at MTSM, I led projects that improved how we use digital media to share our school's story. This experience showed me how to use creativity to communicate well. As a mentor at Technoprep Consulting, I've guided many people who want to work in technology, helping them grow their careers and skills. This has taught me a lot about supporting others in their professional journeys. As a member of the E-Board for the Dean's Executive Leadership Scholar Council and an active participant in the Investment Club, I've gained insights into leadership and financial acumen. These experiences have deepened my understanding of the intersection between finance and technology.

Paolo Nunez

My name is Paolo Nunez, I'm a third year Financial Technology major that's an active E-board member in Volleyball Club (Public Relations Officer), FinTech Club (Expansion and Outreach Director) and SOMA Club (Ensemble Representative). I have been responsible for making sure that the clubs I'm a part of are safe, collaborative environments for all members involved. In my time at NJIT, I've organized NJIT's very own rock band, The Lowlanders, and we've been active for the past year. If I am elected, I would like to make strides for allowing MTSM majors and information to be more represented in the career fair, featured more in a tech-oriented university, as well as introducing more national level opportunities for business clubs on campus.

Shanell Encalada

Hello, my name is Shanell Encalada and I'm a sophomore majoring in Financial Technology. I've engaged in various activities on campus, I contributed to the vibrant student community as a member of the Student Activities Council, Finance and Actuarial club, and Art Club. My achievements include securing an internship at Pfizer as a Data Analyst, consistently making the dean's list for three semesters, being recognized as an Avande scholar, and being featured in the Martin Tuchman School of Management newsletter. If elected, my primary goal is to foster a stronger sense of community among fintech students by creating more opportunities for connection and organizing career development workshops to enhance their professional growth. If elected I will provide a thriving environment for financial technology students at NJIT.