Manifesto

I, Priyanka Talwar (23D1387), am contesting for the position of GSAA-PG. If elected, will focus on improving the academic experience, foster student-industry collaboration, and enhance our overall learning environment along with improving the well-being of the PG community. I envision holistic learning- where every student has the resources, opportunities, and support to excel by making the academic affairs the heartbeat of our institution's evolution. I aim to raise awareness about Post Graduate Council for Academics and Mentoring Programmes (PG-CAMP) and promise to be approachable for the upliftment of the PG community. To achieve the goals and be the students' voice, I propose the following:

1. Follow-up for the introduction of minors for PhD students and seek approval of department-specific bucket lists for master's, hence PhD programs.
2. Propose summary classes before mid-semester and end-semester exams in collaboration with TAs and seniors.
3. Follow-up for a structured process ensuring TA certificates are issued from the beginning of students' degree program.
4. Integration of rulebooks and formal documents in insti-GPT.
5. Ensure regular updates of the existing Research Information Exchange (ResIEx) portal for networking, along with continued support for the Student Acceleration Program (SAP), incorporating engaging learning materials.
6. Push for an increased frequency of well-being sessions, covering time and stress management.
7. Aim to introduce monthly department/hostel PG-oriented events to strengthen bonds and future alumni connections.
8. Ensuring one-on-one mentorship programs for late-arriving students for spot-round and delayed-arrival students, including international students.
9. Introduction of PG lab representatives in each lab to improve outreach and communication.
10. Strive for improved culture of research presentation in department through colloquiums.
11. Push for introduction of IIT Bombay chapters of major conferences/ journals for exposure and opportunities.
12. Follow-up and continuation documentation of available fellowship/ scholarship for PG.
13. Follow-up for increased access to journals, newsletters, and conference proceedings.
14. Push for summer course for PG community.

15. Strive for integration of industrial visits, hands-on projects, and real-world applications in coursework to bridge industrial standards.
16. Follow-up on ongoing policies like having additional Masters degree for direct PhD entrants, M.Sc. exit degree, etc.
17. Push for regular online alumni interactions to enhance networking and placement/internship opportunities at department level.
18. Push for a standardized framework for TA duty allocation across departments.
19. Strive for workshops on technical writing, resume building, mock interviews, personality development, etc.
20. Push for department website updation.
21. Push for a well-defined extended retagging window to be incorporated into the academic calendar.
22. Propose a rotating lab project course allowing students hands-on experience across research labs, facilitating better lab selection.
23. Push for MSc thesis option within the MSc-PhD dual degree program.
24. Propose an increase in institute elective credits to promote interdisciplinary learning.
25. Push for regular guest lectures, workshops, and webinars by industry and academic experts for various domains like finance, management, and domain specific arenas.
26. Follow-up on Annual Progress Seminar (APS) form restructuring.
27. Push for seating space in department along with departmental library in addition of student lounge.
28. Propose access to lab facilities for research during semester breaks.
29. Push for flexible departmental funds to support student-driven academic initiatives.
30. Push for standardized lab equipment training for PG students.

Credentials

Overall Coordinator, Institute Research Scholar Companion Programme   [2024-25]
Manager (PG representative), Institute Innovation Council   [2024-25]
Finance Manager, Hult Prize IIT Bombay campus   [2024, 2025]
Volunteer, Hult Prize Mumbai Summit   [2024]