



## **General Body Meeting**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 9, 2009**

#### 1.1 Attendees:

E-Board: Jaskirat Sodhi, Ashish Borgaonkar, Ashumeet Samra, Chitra Sridhar, Anurag Verma, Vignesh, Bharathwaja

Voting Members: Gaurav Bagwe (BME), Guogen Liu (Chem Engg.), Balavignesh Thirumalainabi (MIE), Daniel Cargill (Math), Samarth Trivedi (Chemistry), Ashish Borgaonkar (Civil) and Christopher Wamble (Member Emeritus)

Clubs: CSSA, GAMEs, GBMES, Transportation, SPE, MSG, Sanskar, DeepCS, TSA, ISPE

1.2 Meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm

1.3 Jaskirat Sodhi, President of the GSA for academic year 2009-2010 welcomed those who were present for the meeting and introduced all the Executive Board members.

1.4 Member Emeritus selection was put forward. Lydia Pan and Christopher Wamble's names were suggested. Since quorum was not there, voting was postponed to next meeting.

1.5 Summary of summer activities and decisions made by e-board in absence of the general assembly was presented at the meeting.

- a. NAGPS – Membership was discussed including advantages of being a member and how it will benefit GSA as a whole.
- b. Tentative Budget was presented. It still has to be approved by NJIT administrators. CSSA raised a request to increase the budget. But it was explained their line items were increased.
- c. GSA involvement in International as well as Domestic Student Orientation was discussed.
- d. Past Activities including Lake George and Ticket Sales to US Open were also summarized.
- e. E-Board member meetings with the administrators were presented.
- f. Travel awards and reimbursements are up to date.
- g. Clubs fair participants were appreciated.

All the above items were put forward for approval. Gaurav Bagwe made the motion, which was seconded by Samarth Trivedi. Motion was approved with 6-0-1 voting in favor.

1.6 Provision for summer research abroad stipend was discussed. Following questions were raised and discussed: How to check the paper works to pick the right candidate? Is there any letter? Which authorizes the candidate to do research? How did the research benefit NJIT? How is this different from a Travel Award? What if more candidates apply in coming weeks? Decision was made to send out an e-mail to publicize summer research stipend to all graduate community and a deadline of 2 weeks is to be given for all interested candidates to apply. All the decisions will be taken and approved at the General Body Meeting after initial screening (Documents have to be checked as per the suggestions given in the meeting.)

Voting for Venkata's application took place. Motion was made by Samarth Trivedi, seconded by Balavignesh Thirumalainambi. Vote was 6-0-1 in favor. Motion was approved.

1.7 Due to time constraint, discussion of changes suggested in the constitution by the interim committee for constitution, during the summer, were postponed to the next general assembly meeting.

1.8 GSA Wiki Spot was introduced. GSA developed it for the incoming and existing graduate students over the summer. Comments and suggestions were requested.

1.9 Future events were presented.

- a. Rafting – 20<sup>th</sup> Sept
- b. Phantom of the opera – 7<sup>th</sup> Oct
- c. Bill Cosby show – 17<sup>th</sup> Oct
- d. Ravi Shankar and Anushka Shankar – NJPAC
- e. Stomp show
- f. Thanksgiving trip to Boston
- g. GSA sports fest – Sept, Oct

1.10 Announcements

- a. Election for department reps – September 14<sup>th</sup> till 21<sup>st</sup> nominations will be accepted and September 28<sup>th</sup> till October 2<sup>nd</sup> elections will be held.
- b. GBMES will hold its first general body meeting on Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at FEN 698 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm.
- c. Christians on Campus have their meeting on Sept 17<sup>th</sup>.
- d. ISPE welcome party is on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>.
- e. Club workshop is on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 4 pm in CC 240/ Ballroom A.

f. CSSA requested participants for the ping-pong tournament.

1.11 TA issue was raised. It was suggested that complaints should be sent to the Provost Office and the Financial Aid Office.

1.12 Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm. Motion was made by Christopher Wamble and seconded by Ashish Borgaonkar.