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Standing for the post of DUGC Committee Member: Student Representative

Vision

As the DUGC representative, my vision would be to serve as the link between the students and the department; being in the fourth year has given me enough experience to put the same to practice. The time is ripe to bring information to the students, conveying student demands to the faculty and assisting students in making informed decisions.

My aim is to improve our academic system and help ignite interests in students who are not able to get the necessary details of ongoing research and prospects of the department, as well making courses and course criteria more student-friendly. My ultimate goal is a better connect between faculty and students which will benefit both groups.

To promote the interests of the student community in governance and decision making, I shall ensure representation of students in all forums as are necessary. A happier environment and cohesion between the faculty and students is what I aim for my department.

Mission

My goal at all times would be **“to be the friend and representative of students of my department, sharing their opinions and concerns on all academic issues, and putting the same forward for discussion in an understandable way on the right platform”**.

Course Restructuring:

Chemical engineering department, being as open and as versatile as it is, needs constant engagement with its students, particularly when it comes to the career prospects in the department. I intend to address this issue with the proposal of a course in the 5th or the 6th semester incorporating all faculty researchers to discuss in a couple of lectures their current work, the industrial connect and the future.

Academic ideas:

The process of engagement through the course is not standardized and is subject to discretion of the faculty members. I intend to form an outline using innovative ideas successfully implemented in other colleges, consider IIT Kharagpur. I intend to help develop grading policies on similar lines.

Degree conversion:

Since the incoming students are all allotted BS at the time of admission, degree conversion becomes a major issue of discussion and debate. Degree conversion at later stages, i.e. at the start of the 7th semester led to major issues this year, particularly in terms of Project Guide Allocation, even though only a few students participated in this process. Approach to deal with it needs to be discussed appropriately and documented.

However, it is also essential to recognize the significance of the existing systems and what I intend to do in a single tenure may not be enough to match the efforts put by my predecessors. But, what I can promise is, I will try my best.

CREDENTIALS

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- Hold the **Department rank 2** among 73 students in the Department of **Chemical Engineering, IIT Kanpur**.
- Winner of the **Academic Excellence Award** for the year 2010-11 & 2011-12 for distinctive academic achievements.

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- **Coordinator, Green Opus**– the Institute level Inter-hall sustainability championship of IIT Kanpur (**July 2012-Mar 2013**)

Initiatives taken:-

- **Revamped** the competition model to increase its visibility along with coordinators of Group for Environment and Energy Engineering, IIT Kanpur to incorporate competitions that involve students with varied interests.
 - **Conceptualized** and successfully **conducted a hostel level pilot project** to remind people through posters and phrases at strategic locations in and around the mess of Hall 9. The mess food wastage in Hall 9 **cut down** by a 100% from 25.69 kg/day in September 2011 to 13.93 kg/day in September 2012.
- **Coordinator Events, Earth Hour** **(Feb-March 2013)**
 - **Conceptualized** and initiated with Golden Jubilee Student Gymkhana and organized for the first time in IIT Kanpur
 - **Introduced** Guest lecture by an Environmental Speaker as a part of Earth Hour Celebrations.
 - **Coordinated** with the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Student Gymkhana as street lights were switched off in the Academic Center as well and all student activities scheduled at the same time were rescheduled.
 - **Conducted** a street play 'Hand-pump' by Prayas kids, an initiative to facilitate learning in underprivileged students.
 - **Organized** mass launching of sky-lanterns followed by Screening of a documentary 'Home' during the Earth Hour.
 - The event marked an **audience** of more than 300 students and faculty members in the Open Air Theatre.
- **Coordinator, Campaign Techkriti 2013** **(Nov 2012-Mar 2013)**
 - **Conceptualized** and **initiated** for the first time in IIT Kanpur as part of Techkriti 2013's motto 'Fixing the Planet'.
 - **Organized** and **developed** events from scratch like In Deep Water, When Women Were, From School and Back to College and Techkriti Persona all aimed at awakening the innovative spirit in the youth to fix problems of society while at the same time making them environmentally and socially conscious.
 - As a pilot project, **coordinated** with the organisers of Fun@Techkriti to keep all activities as free of cost for the mess workers of Hall 9 for an hour on the third day of Techkriti. The event was a huge success and was appreciated by mess workers as something **'being done for them for the first time in the campus'**.
 - **Social impact:** Total participation of over 250 school and college students from all over the country.
- **Coordinator SocCon (The Social Conquest) in Techkriti 2012** **(July 2011-Jan 2012)**
 - Was **given** a fortnight to either develop the event from scratch and to run a trial of the event as a part of the Inter-Hall Technical Competitions "Takneek" or to forfeit the chances of coordinating the same in Techkriti.
 - **Chalked out** the format for the event as one which supports promising young innovators who want to solve the world's most pressing problems with their transformative ideas. It was being organized for the **first time** in Techkriti.
 - **Successfully publicized** the event, it turned out to be one of the most popular events with more than 120 entries.
 - **Secured fifty thousand rupees** as the prize money for the event winners.
 - **Led** a 2-tier team to organize the event during Techkriti 2012 successfully without any glitches.
- **Student mentor, Avanti Fellows** **(Aug 2011-)**
 - **Provided** extensive academic monitoring, goal setting and counseling to an Avanti fellow selected on the basis of an Aptitude test conducted amongst 1500 students in schools of Kanpur, criteria of selection being merit-cum-means.
 - Mentoring process **involved** weekly conversations and meetings, continuous evaluation through biweekly tests and analysis and tutoring and doubt solving sessions.
- **Team mentor, Alumni Contact Program, IIT Kanpur** **(Feb 2011-Jan 2012)**
 - **Responsible** for a team of 6 members for coordinating completion and assignment of duties to the team.
 - **Keeping** the team active and motivated and resolving issues faced by alumni in their relationship with the institute.
 - **Involved** talking to the alumni over phone, inviting them for alumni events, verifying their contact details and soliciting contributions for the institute.
 - On an individual level, **secured** donations totalling nearly thirty thousand rupees for the institute.