In April of 2009, the Student Government As-
sociation (SGA) inaugurated a new team of executive board members. Ray Ballard (Presi-
dent), Michael Krauss (Vice President, Finance and Process Management), Anais Arous (Secretary), Anthony Talamo (Treasurer), and Kaitlyn Stull (Administrative Assistant). The committee served the students for the duration of the 2009-2010 academic year, providing guidance and support to the student body and the institution.

The committee faced numerous challenges in its role, including:

1. **Academic Affairs** (Labs, Galvin, IPRO, Languages, and Sustainability): Focused on improving academic resources and facilities, the committee worked to enhance the learning environment and support student success. They also addressed issues related to sustainability and the impact of climate change.
2. **Public Safety and Security**: The committee focused on enhancing campus safety and security, working with Public Safety to install cameras and panic buttons, and improving lighting in high-risk areas.
3. **Student Life** (Study Abroad, Athletics, Dining Options, Housing, Sustainability, Facilities, Public Safety): The committee worked to improve student life, including initiatives to encourage healthy eating and sustainability.

The committee was comprised of four members:

- **Ray Ballard**, President
- **Louis Berends**, Coordinator of Study Abroad
- **Alyssa Danis**, Coordinator of Student Life
- **Purvag Patel**, Vice President of Academic Affairs

The committee made significant contributions to the student experience, improving facilities, expanding communication channels, and focusing on student participation and leadership in academic and extracurricular activities.
The President serves as the liaison between the administration and the student body, and oversees the Executive Board, internal structure, and development of the members and policy within SGA. They are expected to work (meet) regularly with the President, Provost, Deans, Vice Presidents, and others to actively discuss and solve problems to benefit constituents. The President serves as the voice of the student body, meets occasionally with various constituent groups and operates the General Assemblies (open forums with topics) 3 times a semester.

The Executive Vice President serves as the Speaker of the Senate; organizing the agenda and executing Senate meetings, enabling the branch to succeed through organizing retreats and trainings, constructing the SGA budget, and developing of the members and policy within SGA. They should be an engaging speaker, prepare resolutions submitted by the Senate for the President to sign, work with the President to execute the resolutions, and advise the President on the needs of the Senate, as well as the SGA Constitution and Bylaws. The Exec VP also prepares budgets and proposals for the finances of SGA, and serves in place of the President on various committees or meetings when the President requires.

The Finance Board Chair serves as the lead member of Finance Board, tasked with responsibly allocating the funds of the Student Activities Fund by student organizations and programs. The Chair organizes the agenda and execution of Finance Board meetings, enables the board to succeed through organizing retreats and trainings, constructing the Finance Board budget, answering questions of Senators, and development of the members and finance policy within SGA.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs serves as leader of the Academic Affairs Committee, and manages the resolution of academic issues with members of the committee, executive board, faculty groups, and administrators. The VP organizes agendas and executes Academic Affairs Committee meetings actively engaged in policy making strategies, develops a list of strategic goals for the term with deadlines for results, and shares/executes that vision with the committee, Senate, and student body. The VP should enable committee members to solve problems and develop their personal leadership skills.

The Vice President of Student Life serves as leader of the Student Life Committee, and manages issue resolution of student life issues with members of the committee, executive board, staff, and administrators. The VP organizes agendas and executes Student Life Committee meetings actively engaged in policy making strategies, develops a list of strategic goals for the term with deadlines for results, and shares/executes that vision with the committee, Senate, and student body. The VP should enable committee members to solve problems and develop their personal leadership skills.

The Vice President of Communications serves as leader of the Communications Committee, organizes internal communications, and manages the external marketing of SGA events, open positions, current operations, and ongoing issues to the student body. The VP serves as the minute taker and records Senate attendance, organizes agenda and executes Communications Committee meetings actively engaged in marketing strategies, and develops marketing plans with Communications members through various media outlets: IIT Today, TechNews, the SGA website, Facebook Fan Page and Twitter feed, video updates, etc. Through these techniques, the VP organizes the marketing of General Assemblies (Open Forums), Meet Your Senator Days, Elections, and Senate Achievements.

SGA has been working on so many incredible projects over the past year and some of them will extend beyond this semester. I want to make sure that everyone has been investing effort in will be seen through to completion. These are things like the 24-hour Galvin project, class gift project, and the Hindu worship space project.

But there’s still so much more, and the general goal of my presidency will be to increase student access to administrators and decision making. There have already been big efforts through Students Speak and other advisory committees. For these to be successful and sustainable initiatives, SGA must constantly recruit new, excited, and capable students to work with administrators. This is a big challenge, and I hope to empower the students I work with to be confident and effective in their interactions with the university. I want to find students who are passionate about something and give them the resources to tackle those problems.

Much of what I hope to accomplish practically falls under one of the three committees in SGA: Academic Affairs, Student Life, and Communications. So I will be working closely with each of the vice-presidents to handle the more day-to-day practical issues that SGA encounters. I am very excited about this position and for the team that will be elected. Let’s create a school we all can be proud of!

I am running for this position because I feel a responsibility towards the IIT community to give the best of my skills and experience to help improve it in any way I can. IIT has given so much to me over the past three years, and it would be a great honor to serve it loyally.

First, I would like to focus on recruiting and retaining current undergraduates as graduate students at our university by encouraging the different departments to focus on innovative research, improving the quality of the labs, improving on-campus research experience for minorities, working with the CMC, Housing, and Residence Life to create job opportunities for IIT students.

The Student Speak Survey improved awareness IIT departments need improvement, particularly Housing Services. I’ll create more student driven surveys to highlight challenges students in dorms face and provide suggestions to improve on-campus housing. With Dining Services, not much can be done to improve standards, but late-night eating options for students are possible. In addition, organizations representing some minorities successfully establish connections with companies that beneficial for their members. I’d create a relationship between the CMC and these organizations so connections are expanded to the IIT community.

Finally, I would address high book prices in the bookstore. This is an issue students of different majors and levels need to address at the beginning. More competition on campus would encourage the IIT Bookstore sell books at reasonable prices. Many buy their books from cheaper online sites anyway, but I’d work on suitable alternatives.

I’d like to remedy the fact that there really aren’t many universally ‘fun’ events on campus. There are few events that bring the whole body as a whole body as a whole and that the student organizations can enjoy. It would be very rewarding to see all the kinds of people at IIT enjoying something together, events that everyone can enjoy. It would be nice to have IIT students talking with friends from other schools, proudly saying what event IIT held and making their other friends envious—the opposite of what currently happens when I talk to friends from other schools.

Some people nominated me for this position. This was completely unexpected, and pretty much blew my mind. But it made me think: why not? If somebody out there thinks I can do this, I’m sure I can. I think that with my understanding of the student body I could help IIT become a more enjoyable place to be.

Basically, to keep things structured as they’ve been. Laolu, the current Chair, has done a great job at making the Board’s process simple, well known, and set standards that student organization leaders have become familiar with, and I’d like to carry on that trend.

I am running for the Finance Board Chair position in order to work on certain issues such as the Student Activities Fund buffer situation and developing more efficient proposal processes for student organizations.

I’d like to focus on recruiting and retaining current undergraduates as graduate students at our university by encouraging the different departments to focus on innovative research, improving the quality of the labs, improving on-campus research experience for minorities, working with the CMC, Housing, and Residence Life to create job opportunities for IIT students.

The Student Speak Survey improved awareness IIT departments need improvement, particularly Housing Services. I’ll create more student driven surveys to highlight challenges students in dorms face and provide suggestions to improve on-campus housing. With Dining Services, not much can be done to improve standards, but late-night eating options for students are possible. In addition, organizations representing some minorities successfully establish connections with companies that beneficial for their members. I’d create a relationship between the CMC and these organizations so connections are expanded to the IIT community.

Finally, I would address high book prices in the bookstore. This is an issue students of different majors and levels need to address at the beginning. More competition on campus would encourage the IIT Bookstore sell books at reasonable prices. Many buy their books from cheaper online sites anyway, but I’d work on suitable alternatives.

I’d like to remedy the fact that there really aren’t many universally ‘fun’ events on campus. There are few events that bring the whole body as a whole body and that the student organizations can enjoy. It would be very rewarding to see all the kinds of people at IIT enjoying something together, events that everyone can enjoy. It would be nice to have IIT students talking with friends from other schools, proudly saying what event IIT held and making their other friends envious—the opposite of what currently happens when I talk to friends from other schools.

The main issue currently is the SAF buffer. The SAF is a fund for student organizations only. I will bring new and easier ways for organizations to access this money. Some ideas are being worked on by a Senate special committee to deal with the buffer and may take affect.

Another beneficial idea for both the Board and student organizations is to increase communication. The current Board has a webpage containing the Board’s website and increasing publicity, and to improve on these efforts will help student organizations. I’d also like to encourage student leaders to ask the Board any questions they have with regards to funding.

Most of all, I would like to deal with the Student Activities Fund buffer situation. Using the plan that has been put forward by the Board, I would like to implement the recommended changes to remedy the situations.

In addition, I would ensure that allocations are sufficient and do not add to the buffer situation. Reserves can be built into the proposal process and follow up budget processes to make sure that they are adequate and efficient for student organizations.

I’d like to focus on recruiting and retaining current undergraduates as graduate students at our university by encouraging the different departments to focus on innovative research, improving the quality of the labs, improving on-campus research experience for minorities, working with the CMC, Housing, and Residence Life to create job opportunities for IIT students.

The Student Speak Survey improved awareness IIT departments need improvement, particularly Housing Services. I’ll create more student driven surveys to highlight challenges students in dorms face and provide suggestions to improve on-campus housing. With Dining Services, not much can be done to improve standards, but late-night eating options for students are possible. In addition, organizations representing some minorities successfully establish connections with companies that beneficial for their members. I’d create a relationship between the CMC and these organizations so connections are expanded to the IIT community.

Finally, I would address high book prices in the bookstore. This is an issue students of different majors and levels need to address at the beginning. More competition on campus would encourage the IIT Bookstore sell books at reasonable prices. Many buy their books from cheaper online sites anyway, but I’d work on suitable alternatives.

I’d like to remedy the fact that there really aren’t many universally ‘fun’ events on campus. There are few events that bring the whole body as a whole body and that the student organizations can enjoy. It would be very rewarding to see all the kinds of people at IIT enjoying something together, events that everyone can enjoy. It would be nice to have IIT students talking with friends from other schools, proudly saying what event IIT held and making their other friends envious—the opposite of what currently happens when I talk to friends from other schools.

The main issue currently is the SAF buffer. The SAF is a fund for student organizations only. I will bring new and easier ways for organizations to access this money. Some ideas are being worked on by a Senate special committee to deal with the buffer and may take affect.

Another beneficial idea for both the Board and student organizations is to increase communication. The current Board has a webpage containing the Board’s website and increasing publicity, and to improve on these efforts will help student organizations. I’d also like to encourage student leaders to ask the Board any questions they have with regards to funding.
Why are you running for this position?

Executive Vice-President

ETHAN BAUGHLEY
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, 2ND YEAR

I am running for this position to help the students of IIT. I am already a very active member of several organizations here on campus and I think this one would be a great addition to my list of skills to help the students of IIT have a more successful and enjoyable time here at IIT.

Why are you running for this position?

As a 2nd year student at IIT, I have been exposed to many areas of the university, and over the past 2 years of being here, I can say that I’m proud to be apart of this university and to call myself an IIT Scarlet Hawk. As Executive Vice President I want to let students know that their voice is never too small to be heard, that they are an important part of this university and their concerns and questions should be answered in a timely manner. Also, to give students a sense of comfort in standing up for change and helping administrators improve this university as the years pass.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

I would like to see through the idea of a campus switch to Google as our e-mail client and also students of IIT. I am already a very active member of a number of clubs and have been heavily involved in the communications committee since I first joined SGA and I feel I have a great deal left to contribute. I have had the opportunity to work with many passionate and talented people, and have seen first-hand what SGA can accomplish when students are focused and organized. Above all, I want to work to maintain the momentum that the previous Executive Board members established.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

I have always been highly involved in student organizations. I continually evolved as a person with every meeting that I presided over, with every team that I spearheaded, and with every event that I executed. It is in these enriching experiences that I found a sense of accomplishment, an acute understanding of leading cross-cultural teams, and above all, lifelong friendships.

As a new student at IIT, I seek to immerse myself in a role that gives me access to a wider platform. This position will allow me to create an efficient platform to interact in which there would be a day that administrators and students work together on issues or even have an opportunity to talk.

Vice-President of Communications

ELNAZ MOSHEFGHIAN
COMPUTER SCIENCE, PRE-LAW, 2ND YEAR

Why are you running for this position?

On a daily basis I interact and work with a multitude of campus leaders, a majority of whom are SGA senators. During our conversations I have stumbled upon news about SGA initiatives, and I am always impressed by their impact. I realize most of my knowledge comes purely out of proximity to SGA senators, consequently a large portion of the student body is unaware of many issues that SGA is working on. I’d like to change that. With solid communication, SGA can reach its full potential and as VP of Communications I’d like to help take SGA there.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

A major issue will be increasing student participation in open forums and campus surveys. These are great outlets for communication and improvement on campus, but only when students make their voices heard. I also plan to increase the presence of SGA on campus through greater use of TechNews and Facebook. I see this as the best way to encourage student involvement in SGA.

CHRIS ROBERTS
JOURNALISM OF TECH, SCIENCE, AND BUSINESS, 3RD YEAR

Why are you running for this position?

I remember my first few weeks at school. When I wanted to look for information about student clubs, all I saw were student club pages on websites and email addresses. When approached, club officers would ask me to emailing lists. The process was not a welcoming one, and I’d like to work to create an interactive webpage serving as an online, comprehensive guide manual to better assimilate incoming students. We’ll post short videos about latest club events, a video message from club executive members, their vision, and what they are about. I’d like a rise in IIT’s commitment to the cause of education at both community and global levels. I am passionate about primary education, and would create a platform that promotes education in our own communities, and generates funds for sponsoring education in the third world. SGA could match with NGOs or adopt educational institutions. I would support an IIT initiative to create an IPRO for social support. I researched about such models in various universities across the US. We’d start with adopting a chapter, and raising funds by planning various social events on campus such as marathons, creating a money tree, etc. Depending on student interest, we could have contact hours with school children by donating a few hours for direct tutoring.

SHATORIA LUNSFORD
BIOLOGY, PREMED 2ND YEAR

Why are you running for this position?

As the Exec. VP for SGA, it wouldn’t be my primary concern to tackle issues the same way that the VP of Academic Affairs might tackle an academic related issue. I would, however, fully support and provide email client and also students of IIT. I am already a very active member of several organizations here on campus and I think this one would be a great addition to my list of skills to help the students of IIT have a more successful and enjoyable time here at IIT.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

I have always been highly involved in student organizations. I continually evolved as a person with every meeting that I presided over, with every team that I spearheaded, and with every event that I executed. It is in these enriching experiences that I found a sense of accomplishment, an acute understanding of leading cross-cultural teams, and above all, lifelong friendships.

As a new student at IIT, I seek to immerse myself in a role that gives me access to a wider platform. This position will allow me to create an efficient platform to interact in which there would be a day that administrators and students work together on issues or even have an opportunity to talk.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

I would, however, fully support and provide email client and also students of IIT. I am already a very active member of several organizations here on campus and I think this one would be a great addition to my list of skills to help the students of IIT have a more successful and enjoyable time here at IIT.
I am running for V.P. of Academic Affairs because I want to make a difference in the IIT community. Being involved in Student Government was very important for me since starting at IIT just last fall, because I believe in the IIT community and I believe that we can make a difference not only around campus but we can make a difference in the communities that make up the IIT community. Becoming V.P. of Academic Affairs will give me the chance to better IIT in order to give our students the best education possible.

Having been in IIT for over a year, during which different changes have been implemented, through SGA, I have been motivated to be a part of the plan to make IIT a better school and since academics play a major role in our school life, it would be a good idea to tackle these academic problems through the Student Government Association.

IIT is a school with great minds that I feel, are not driven enough and provided with the resources they require to reach greater heights because of certain school policies and limitations. Therefore, I feel the students need a voice that can make their opinions, worries and concerns considering these policies known, and this is why I am running for the position of Vice-President of Academic Affairs.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

I would like to keep working towards downloading lectures, and help push for the International Academy. Both issues are more involved but we have made good strides to increase grad-ual student involvement in SGA. From Exec board to Exec board to continue to support this issues from Exec board to Exec board because they are important issues to our students.

I would like to tackle the issue of Language studies in IIT. IIT does not have a continuous language program and I feel the students would be interested in one. This would also benefit the students whom upon graduation from the school would be fluent in another language and also well rounded individuals.

Galvin Library opened 24 hours during the final week, but the week before the final it operates on the normal hours. Most of the students would be interested in having the library opened 24 hours the week before finals, as that week is a busy week heavily loaded with projects to finish, and early preparations for finals.

Why are you running for this position?

In my senate term I really came to love student government. The ability to take on an issue, present it to administrators and peers, and work towards a solution is something that I relish. I am running because I want to make student life stronger, as well as liaison between the student body and IIT’s administration.

I feel that the quality of life students is one of the most vital parts of college. We come to school not only to study but to make friends and grow. I hope to improve campus by offering students more opportunities to enjoy their time at college. I believe I have the leadership skills and management skills to improve a variety of issues this coming year.

I would like to improve student happiness with IIT by continuing to work on Keating with the same group of students compiled from this semester and to eventually pass a resolution. I also would like to help other senators as they work to improve IIT by participating in discussion forums about the study aboard program and the career management center.

What issues/goals would you focus on and how do you plan on achieving them?

First, I’ll focus on interdepartmental communication confusion for students bunched between departments responding to their questions and educate students on where to go. Secondly, student organizations are an extremely vital part of student life on campus. To prepare student orgs even better, I will work with the Office of Student Life to host a retreat for student org leaders, providing opportunities to plan for the year, prepare budgets, network, and learn the requirements for a student org from the OSL. Thirdly, the issues current Student Life Committee issues should advance, including work with some departments that scored poorly on the student speak survey, Study Abroad programs, and Gmail.