

## **Personal statement for Vice President of Technology Nomination**

I am Babuaravind, a Graduate Information Systems student at Northeastern University's College of Engineering. I am excited to announce my candidacy for the position of Vice President of Financial Affairs in the Graduate Student Government (GSG). Over the past 1 year, I have been a senator in the technology team and contributed significantly to the betterment of the government and helped make tasks easier for the President, Executive Vice President, and the E-board along with the team.

One such feature that I worked along with my team is the attendance tracker automation. This helped us save a lot of repeated manual work to track senate meeting attendance and approve new senator requests. Now, the system will generate an excel file on click of a button, with details about everyone who attended the meeting and also maintains a master file of data from every meeting in a semester.

Apart from my involvement in the technology team, I have also worked on the mental wellness days Ad-hoc committee. It was focused on emphasizing the importance of having wellness day-offs for the Graduate students similar to the successful program being run for the Undergraduates. We created a survey, reaching out to Graduate students asking various questions about their opinion on this before presenting it to the advisors.

I also am on the planning committee of the Grad Senior Week (event name unfinalised), where I am working with few other senators along with the President and VP of Academic affairs to organize events for the graduating Grad students.

I want to contest for the VP of Financial affairs as I strongly believe that there needs to be a lot of work that needs to be done on top of the good work done by the current committee. My plans for this particular role is to bring more transparency to how the funds are being spent by publishing the monthly break-up on the GSG's website. Another project is to get approval for senator incentivization as they put in a lot of effort passionately for all the events and tasks in GSG and would motivate them to work even harder.

Also, as an International student I personally struggled a bit initially with managing my finances and did not know about the dos and donts when it comes to handling money as a F1 visa holder. I want to address this by organizing multiple information sessions on these topics with the help of the Univeristy's financial services.

On top of this, I noticed that many students outside of the GSG do not have an idea about their eligibility to the Individual Conference Funding, and Group Funding. I want to create more awareness about this to the Graduate student community by working with the other E-Board members, especially the marketing committee and help more students get benefitted.

I promise to fulfill my duties as the Vice President of Financial Committee and my assurances over my term if elected and help the Graduate students get a complete experience during their course period at Northeastern University.