

# **PERSONAL STATEMENT**

**Manjari Chaturvedi – Candidate for Vice President of Academic Affairs**

My personal experience as an international student has motivated me to run for the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs at Northeastern University. I have encountered various obstacles and hurdles that have made it difficult to fully engage with the academic opportunities available to me, such as language barriers, cultural differences, and a lack of familiarity with the academic system. Despite these obstacles, I have remained committed to pursuing academic excellence and maximizing my potential. As a leader, I am committed to creating a more inclusive, supportive, and rewarding academic environment for all students, regardless of their background or circumstances.

In my tenure as a senator at GSG, I have consistently and actively sought out opportunities to engage with my fellow E-board members & senators from different committees and contribute to the betterment of our NEU graduate community. In doing so, I have gone above and beyond by volunteering my time and efforts at various events, including the Fall Brunch, Spring Welcome, and Masquerade Ball.

Not content with simply being a passive participant, I have taken on leadership roles as well. For instance, I spearheaded an ad hoc committee tasked with reviewing the GSG Constitution alongside a team of four dedicated senators. Together, we worked tirelessly to ensure that the document was thoroughly scrutinized, and any necessary revisions were made. I believe that serving as a senator is a responsibility and I have strived to fulfill this duty to the best of my abilities. I am always eager to contribute and make a positive impact. I firmly believe that serving as a senator is not just a title, but a responsibility. It requires a deep commitment to representing the voices and interests of the student body, and I have strived to fulfill this duty to the best of my abilities. Whether it's attending meetings, engaging in discussions, or collaborating with others, I am always eager to contribute and make a positive impact.

As the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Northeastern University, my primary goal is to enhance the academic experience of students by providing them with access to research programs and opportunities that can help them reach their full potential. This includes the RISE (Research, Innovation, and Scholarship Expo) program, which provides a platform for undergraduate and graduate students to showcase their research and scholarly work. As the VP of Academic Affairs, I would work to expand the scope and reach of this program, making it more accessible to students from all academic disciplines and backgrounds. This could involve organizing workshops, networking events, and mentoring programs that help students refine their research skills and connect with potential collaborators. Another program that I would prioritize is the NIH (National Institutes of Health) Panel, which provides students with the opportunity to learn more about careers in biomedical research and related fields. I would work to ensure that students are made aware of this program, and that they are provided with the resources and support they need to make the most of it. This could involve partnering with relevant faculty members and departments to organize informational sessions, mock interviews, and other career development events.

I am excited to bring my passion for academic excellence and experience as an international student to the role of Vice President of Academic Affairs at Northeastern University. I am committed to promoting academic innovation, inclusion, and opportunity for all students and am confident that my skills, dedication, and leadership will enable me to make a meaningful contribution to the graduate community.