Hello everyone, I am Aayush Joshipura, and I am honored to be a candidate for President this upcoming semester. For better or for worse, I’ve made the IRC my life for a sneaky 5 semesters now and would love nothing more than to add a sixth by serving as president. Whether you know me best as your EVP, HD, VP Events, or friend, I want to reintroduce myself as a serious, passionate, and hard-working individual ready to tackle the IRC’s key challenges and lead an entertaining club as president.

My time in the IRC can be summarized by one word: growth. In every leadership role, conference, club meeting, I became not only a better leader, but a better friend and person. Serving on EBoard, BoD, selection, and HD of two fantastic NCSC & NUMAL delegations have prepared me for the complex dynamics and challenges that come with leadership. These experiences developed my skills as both a mediator and as a key decision-maker, working to mitigate conflict and handle strong personalities. Attending conferences and dealing with insufferable UCLA dels enhanced my skills as a delegate, while chairing at club, class, UNAGB, and NERMAL furthered my knowledge of model debate and helped me teach those principles last semester as EVP and this semester as parliamentarian. Most importantly, my time crafting club sims and events helped me uniquely understand what IRC members value and find entertaining. Whether we were crushing South China Sea politics or crushing apples, the initiatives I put in motion aspired to make IRC more fun and enriching for all members. By holding these positions, I’ve not only grown as a person, but also gained the knowledge and confidence needed to excel as president. The IRC has always been a second home for me and I’ll ensure the club remains an environment where all members have fun and feel included, respected, and heard.

For specific ideas, my priorities center around increasing accessibility and transparency to leadership, advancing conference preparation, and expanding our opportunities both across Northeastern and the model circuit. One of my key priorities as president is to make leadership much more accessible and address the communication gaps between members of leadership and club members. It’s difficult for newer members to keep up with all the different events, decisions, and issues that leadership often addresses. All members can attend meetings and read minutes, but not everyone has the time to keep up. Presenting a slide in announcements to briefly recap topics discussed during EBoard and BoD can recap the important proposals/decisions for busier members and increase the transparency of IRC leadership. As president, I also aim to build on our elite momentum at conferences by continuing to improve our preparation methods and continue advancing our program. Working with our next EVP to continue skill building workshops during club, collaborating with HDs to improve pre-conference prep, and continuing to devise new and engaging ways to further our debate skills are all initiatives that yield great rewards.

Aside from strengthening the club internally, I also want to lead efforts to continue increasing our external connections to both Northeastern and the model circuit. Semesters of planning finally culminated in a successful Beanpot Sim and the passage of Northeastern’s very own NATO conference yesterday. I’m thrilled to see the IRC starting to expand outreach and am determined to continue building new relationships. Working with leadership to increase our social media presence, utilize campus resources to expand our profile, and continue creating joint events with Northeastern clubs and surrounding universities are ideas I believe will grow the IRC even further.

At the core of all of these ideas, however, is a focus on making the IRC more fun and engaging for all of us on a day-to-day basis. This does not mean I will remove the professional nature of the club but, I will continue developing and supporting ambitious initiatives that are provocative and get the people going. Larger-scale events, new collaborations, and fun club activities are all plans I will support to further advance the IRC.

To properly implement my visions, I know I must be a serious and hard-working leader. I will remain patient and use my strengths as a mediator to foster strong discourse and relations between myself and my fellow leaders. My vast knowledge of club affairs/procedures will help me serve as a resource to every member when needed. My time structuring the club as EVP and planning events both provided important experience not only with efficient time management, but also with brainstorming new ways to make club fun and engaging for all of us. As I have in previous leadership roles, I will take accountability and learn from any mistakes I make, and work hard to improve at every step. Being faced with difficult situations has only developed my perspective on important club culture and administrative matters, preparing me to continue my work with EBoard, BoD, and CASD members to promote unity and inclusion across all facets of the IRC. I promise to continue improving as a leader and do my best to address challenges I face.

Ultimately, I aim to maximize the budding, amazing talent of our delegates across all three models, increase transparency around EBoard/BoD decisions internally and externally, and most importantly, continue creating a fun and comfortable learning environment for members to look forward to weekly. I understand the challenges and stresses that come with the role, but I am prepared to face them. I strive to be a president that not only earns your trust and respect, but one that truly makes every IRC experience a highlight. Being president is a serious responsibility and I promise to do everything in my power to live up to the confidence you all have shown me. Having known you all for as long as I have, I know I’ll be well supported in the position. Thank you!