

Manifesto for the post of General Secretary, IIT Gandhinagar

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I, Vyom Mudgal, if elected for the post of General Secretary of the IITGN Student Council, will help create an atmosphere of trust, coordination, innovation and efficiency in our community. I plan to unite the Student Council into one single entity with a well-defined purpose and make sure that we always do what is best for our community.

I would like to propose my candidature for the post of General Secretary with the following agenda:

Career First:

Amidst the COVID-19 situation, the internship and placement opportunities are likely to get affected at least for this year. Thus my approach towards everything would be oriented to bring benefits to students when it comes to their career. For this, I propose to work on the following fronts:

1. Providing **preparation aids to students for competitive exams** like CAT/GMAT, GATE, GRE, UPSC etc. by giving them appropriate guidance using the focused groups, experts and alumni. Information webinars would be conducted to **connect students with industry leaders and startup founders/heads to aid students in finding jobs and internships**.
2. *Apart from this, for the upcoming final year students (students graduating next year):*
 - a. For students oriented towards a management career: A few employment opportunities would be proposed to the institute under which the students may be able to take **paid employment within the college to get a year-long experience of actual management type work** right after their graduation.
 - b. For students oriented for a research career or higher education in their core fields: A few **funded council projects** may be identified and floated to students right after graduation. Also, relevant alumni's and research organizations would be contacted to **offer funded long term remote projects** to students.
3. *For students who would be appearing for internships in the coming summer or winter breaks:*
 - a. With the help of other secretaries and council members, **month-long workshops would be conducted in the two breaks to provide students with an alternative to internships**

(opportunities similar to Invention Factory). These workshops would enable people to **connect to the current leaders of these specific fields** and get **exposure to internships-type work** to build their skills for future career opportunities.

Mental Wellness:

In these testing times, the mental wellness of people suffers the most. Thus, mental wellness would be one of my primary motives, apart from career opportunities. For a start, I propose to work on the following:

1. ***Grievance Reporting System***: Establishing a system to mediate between all the stakeholders when a student faces some serious issues (all issues related to academics, general administration, funding etc.) in the institute which are difficult to tackle. The relevant council secretary would engage in the **system to provide a definite closure to the problem in a timely manner**.
2. ***IITGN Radio***: As a stress buster initiative, I propose to start a **biweekly broadcast (on online platforms) of exclusive IITGN related radio content** for all community members. The content would include things such as **Radio Rangmanch (talent shows** in collaboration with the cultural secretary), interesting and fun **interviews of professors and alumni, recent happenings** in college, important **updates and announcements** etc.
3. ***Recreational Competitions***: During the next semester, I propose to **organize an exciting fortnightly online event** to engage the whole IITGN community in fun and interesting competitions and activities.
4. Application of the student guide system to the PG community and **re-evaluating the process of choosing student guides**.
5. For stress-free and easier navigation of career-related activities in college life, interested **alumni would be appointed as career guides** to willing students.
6. In accordance with the counselling services, more ways would be devised to increase student involvement in counselling activities.

Your Campus - Your Rules:

I propose to bring forward a scheme in which the students undertake the task of rejuvenation and designing our campus's amenities. This task would be overlooked with the help of the elected welfare secretary. The following points are proposed:

1. ***Build your own campus***: A scheme to enable the IITGN students to design the interior and ambience of the upcoming constructions, i.e. the sports complex, new hostel's common facilities, central arcade, etc. **Periodic drives** would be **organized to transform identified spaces into functional amenities** or redecorate and redesign the existing campus facilities.
2. ***Wall of fame***: A wall of fame would be set up to record notable achievements of our students during their stay at college.
3. ***Flexible Laundry Services***: Instead of allocated laundry days, a new laundry system would be set up (with laundry tracking services) which would enable students to **give their laundry on any weekday**. The students would be able to **digitally track their laundry status** so as to know when they are supposed to collect their clean clothes.

4. ***Beta Campus:***

- a. Under this initiative, students would be encouraged to pitch in ideas about all the facilities and resources they want to have in the college. Using the current campus scenario, we will start a **beta run for these new ideas to test their feasibility**. Ideas which are implemented successfully would be **scaled up for usage by the whole community**.
- b. For a start, the first idea would be to implement a one card system for accessing all the college services. Our **IITGN ID card would be used to access all the various campus services** like the mess (so that people may enjoy easier walk-in services), canteens, library (even outstanding dues), advance forms etc.

Miscellaneous:

1. ***COVID-19 management group:*** a specific team would be set up to **felicitate the process of students returning to campus** and managing the on-campus activities thereafter.
2. Propose the college authorities to **waive off the non-tuition fee**, like hostel fee, mess fee, etc., for non-resident students of IIT Gandhinagar.
3. Propose to **increase the quota for pass/fail credits** due to the onset of the online semester.
4. Centralized Portal: Collect and reorganize all the information relevant to students, like advisories, forms, club details, utility details, academics related information, etc, to a **centralized platform so that students may access these resources in a streamlined way**. Using infographics to explain all the information effectively.
5. With the help of elected PDC secretary, propose to revamp PrepMat (aid for the **preparation of company-specific interviews and exams for internships and placements**) to cover most companies which visit our colleges.
6. Email Labels: Use of specific keywords in the subject of emails so that students may organize their inboxes well and not miss important emails.
7. Periodic reviews would be shared by all council and club secretaries.

Positions Of Responsibilities:

- Institute Senate: Student Representative, AY 2019-20
- Professional Development Council (PDC) Member, AY 2019-20
- Industrial Relations and Projects Council (IR&P) Member, AY 2018-19
- Amalthea Core Committee Member, AY 2018-19