



TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

CAMPUS 1-5
A&E 6
SLIPSTICK 7
SPORTS 7

SGA executive board candidates share views at debate ahead of elections

Reno Waswil
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Elections for the Student Government Association (SGA) executive board, which includes the president, executive vice president (executive VP), finance board chair, vice president (VP) of academic affairs, VP of communications, and VP of student life began this week. The debates for each of these positions were held on Friday, April 1, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Center Court, moderated by TechNews Editor-in-Chief Anoop Sundararajan. The debates were in the form of a set of questions that were formulated by Sundararajan with input from the SGA election committee and online submissions from the student body. Each section was followed by the opportunity for the audience to ask questions. The video recordings of the debate can be found on SGA's YouTube channel.

The first debate was for the presidential candidates, Irewole Akande, Hamze Leo Sukkar, Jerry Sha, and Khadijah Nesbitt, who started off with their brief introductions. The first question asked what qualifications each of the candidates held to represent the entire student body's thoughts and opinions to university administration and the Board of Trustees.

Nesbitt started off, explaining that her experience as a member of the President's Student Advisory Council (PSAC) allowed her to meet with President Cramb regularly to discuss student concerns, and having been to the Board of Trustees before, she is familiar with the process. She also said that her friendly and open personality as well as her skills speak to her ability to interact well with the breadth of the student body in order to be adequately considerate to their needs.

Sukkar went next, saying that he had become well acquainted with speaking to and interacting with university administration in his current position as VP of student life, and with students through his involvement in the Students Speak Survey. Outside of SGA, he is involved in the campus community as a Resident Advisor (RA) meaning that he has access to a variety of student opinions and is professionally trained to listen, reflect on, and act on student concerns in a proactive way.

Akande started by highlighting his involvement in a variety of student organization of differing sizes on campus over his time here. He has also been an active participant in intramural sports and has played varsity soccer. He tied these together saying that his curious nature has been one that always led him to ask important questions about how we can better our community, regardless of what

part of the community he was involved in.

Sha explained that although he does not have the most student organization involvement, only being actively involved in two student organizations, what makes him qualified is his awareness of the multitude of student concerns that he hears regularly. He finished by saying that he believes that he offers a much different perspective than the other candidates that would be beneficial to the position.

To Sha, it was pointed out that in his candidate packet, to the question asking what SGA was doing well and what he would try to continue or improve on, he wrote "no comment." When asked to explain or if he would like to amend his answer, he said that he didn't feel qualified at that point to answer that question, and that the first thing he would do in his position would be to figure out what is going on with the SGA agenda and work from there.

To Nesbitt, it was pointed out that her candidate packet indicated that she had never been a part of SGA, and that some students may be concerned that this would keep her from fulfilling her duties. It was asked how familiar she is with SGA's workings and how she would address these apprehensions of her. In response, she spoke to her interactions with SGA through RHA partnerships as well

as discussions with the current president and executive VP of SGA. She added that over that time she had become well aware of its workings, and would continue to strive to learn.

It was pointed out to Akande that in his candidate packet, he outlined a few methods meant to strengthen SGA's relationship with individual student organizations, but in fact, some of those methods are currently practiced by SGA. He was asked if he felt that his perceived disconnect from what SGA is doing would affect his ability to bring about effective change, or if it would help him.

He answered by stating that his ultimate goal in his plan is to make SGA work for the good of the student body, as outlined in his packet, but what needs to be done before that can happen is SGA being truly informed of the student experience and having an idea of the greater "student atmosphere."

Sukkar was asked how he would counter any bias he may have of SGA due to his prolonged experience in it and how he would interact with those that have generally negative attitudes towards the organization.

Continued on Page 2

IIT NECA students do energy audit at IIT Perspectives school

Julie Chandler
Emamouel Milanov
Justin Brinkerhoff
Maribel Nieves
TECHNEWS WRITERS

The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) IIT student chapter will be competing in this year's 2016 Green Energy Challenge. In this competition, the chapter is required to conduct an energy audit of Perspectives/IIT Math and Science Academy. The team evaluated the school and prepared a proposal that lists out both short and long term recommendations to help the school become more energy aware and efficient. It was required to pick two rooms in the building on opposite sides for the assessment, while also exposing the students of the school to energy savings.

The team leader, Justin Brinkerhoff, is an electrical engineer. The co-leader is

Emanouel Milanov, who is a mechanical engineering major. The energy analysis leader is Brian O'Kane, who is studying industrial technology and management. The solar energy team was led by Sinou Xu, who is an electrical engineering major. The finance analysis leader is Andrea Rivera, an architecture major. The team is sponsored by the Chicago and Cook County NECA Chapter.

With the cooperation of the Program Manager for the after school engineer scholar's program, Jana Elion, the team was able to meet with several school engineers, students, and Mr. Faik, Perspectives' Environmental Sciences teacher. On one of the site trips we were able to talk to some of the students who were in Mr Faik's after school class, in which we explained how to use Lumen meters. These meters were then used by the students as an educational tool by helping the team gather data. They recorded the following: 621 laptops and 32 desktops computers in the building, 38 of which are left on constantly. There are 612

T-8 fluorescent light fixtures along with 26 high pressure sodium lights on the outside of the building. They also recorded measurements that were needed for the assessment tools to work properly in analyzing the school's needs.

The team went on several site visits and noticed several issues that could be addressed in order to save energy, such as (but not limited to): the type of windows, HVAC system, and the condition of the building exterior as well as the current use of lighting throughout the school. The current heating system allows some rooms to gain more heat than others. This causes the rooms that are overheating to require single unit air conditioners to be installed and operating.

Perspectives' Building Engineer, Daryl Jones, provided the team access to the roof to evaluate various fans and the current solar array. The team observed that the solar panel (which was donated in 2009) was connected to an inverter with nominal output of 1800W. The electrical tie-in routes

to a circuit breaker panel which contains incandescent and compact fluorescent bulbs. Due to the capacity of the system and the light bulbs on the connected panel, the installation is inadequate for energy reduction.

After doing some research, it was concluded that the windows should be replaced to reduce the amount of heat loss. The emergency doors should be replaced in order to reduce the gaps between the doors and frames along with the sweeps underneath to keep the heat in the building. For the HVAC systems it was recommended that a BAS/BIM system should be installed so that the engineers have more control of the system throughout the building. In turn, these recommendations could help regulate heating and cooling better, which would show in both the comfort of the occupants and the amount that would be saved for the school budget.



Photo courtesy of IIT NECA student chapter