Hello Highlanders,

Years ago before any of us were students at NJIT, the Student Senate played a very different role than it does today. Back then, it was an organization that put together fun events for the student body, similar to the Student Activities Council. This meant that Senate didn’t fund student organizations like it does today, and so year after year there was money going unspent.

This year the Student Senate has been working on broad reforms to the way that we operate as an organization. From increasing transparency to restructuring the way that we oversee student organizations, we are making every effort to improve our ability to serve students. Perhaps the biggest project of the term has been a thorough review of our budget and our financial policies.

While going through our accounts, we identified an account containing $800,000 of budget surpluses from the past decade and money from projects that came in under budget. Since finding this account, we have investigated ways to spend the money in ways that will benefit the students, but now we want to hear from all of you.

Through the link below you can let us know what you think about the options that we have found already, and give us more ideas for projects that the money can be spent on. We will also be holding open forums at our meetings on Wednesdays at 2:30pm in Campus Center Ballroom B where you can voice your opinions and ask any questions that you might have. As always, feel free to email me or come by my office hours if you’d like to talk more.

**Student Input Survey**

I’d like to clarify that this is different from previous funds that we used exclusively for capital improvement projects such as installing water bottle filling stations, renovating the basement club offices, and getting new furniture for the second floor of the Campus Center. This means that we aren’t restricted to just using this money for capital improvements, so every idea that we get from you will be taken into consideration.

We believe that transparency in our actions is foundational to our mission and values as the Student Senate, and gathering as much student input as possible during this process is paramount. We hope that you will join us in this major undertaking, so we can benefit the students at NJIT for years to come.