162. Jacob Brewster: Jump in the Deep End

Gavin Kelly 00:18
Hey everybody, you're listening to Beyond 1894. This is the official podcast of Louisiana Tech University. My name is Gavin Kelly from the Office of University Communications, and our guest for this episode is Jacob Brewster. He is a senior civil engineering major here at Louisiana Tech. He's the president of Union Board, and he is also way more involved than just that. He's going to tell us about today. Jacob, thank you for making time for us.

Jacob Brewster 00:39
Of course, no problem. Love being here.

Gavin Kelly 00:41
Yeah, I know it's a. We were talking a little bit about how busy the quarter is, and you know, you put the typical demands of an engineering curriculum, and you stack that on top of you know your duties and obligations with union board and all your other you know clubs and things that you're a part of. I'm guessing that adds up pretty quickly, no?

Jacob Brewster 01:00
Definitely, definitely adds up very quickly. Able to manage it all, juggle it all. It definitely keeps me very busy, busy from typically eight to eight every day. But I love it, and I love serving, and yeah, just do it for people around me.

Gavin Kelly 01:15
Good, good. We'll we'll get into that. Also, so when the day comes where you end up with you know a classic nine to five job. You'll be able to feel like a breeze because you'll be used to to busting your butt here at Tech. So let's talk about that a little bit. So I ask everyone, especially students who are you know actively pursuing a degree here, to talk about their why Louisiana Tech. Right. So talk to me a little bit about where you're from, and then at what point you knew you were going to attend Tech and why?

Jacob Brewster 01:42
Yeah, this is a question that I love asking people, talking to people at Tech about, just because it it's so cool the different stories of how people end up at Tech. So the reason that I came to Tech is I went to school in Lake Charles, Louisiana. I'm from Sam Houston High School, and growing up, I always knew I wanted to do engineering. My dad was a chemical engineer, and my brain is very logical thinking. I always like you know math was always a good subject, science was always a good subject, and so I knew I wanted to do engineering. And typically, there's only in Louisiana. I think there's only three real good schools that do that, and I wanted to stay and stay, use as much money as possible that I could, and so it was between here, McNeese, and LSU. I didn't really want to stay home, didn't want to go to McNeese, and so it was between here and LSU. And the reason I chose tech over LSU is because just the size of LSU was really big, and I kind of wanted to go somewhere where I could stand out and get

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to know as many people as I can and have as many like opportunities as I could, and also it's just the added benefit that Tech just has a phenomenal engineering program where you can get hands-on experience in your first year and really just like see if you like it or if you don't like it. I ended up liking it, sticking it out, but yeah, Tech just has a phenomenal program, and just the community of people at Tech is just something that's special. It's hard to convey that, just like over, I don't know, over a podcast. But like, if you actually come here to campus and visit campus and like see it, even if you're here for an hour, like an hour, like you see it.

Gavin Kelly 03:16
Yeah, that's our admissions office says that all the time. Like, if you can get a prospective student to campus for a tour. Like the rollover rate on that to to get them enrolled is like really in the 90% or something. It's crazy. And I think too. I mean, I've talked about on this podcast probably 100 times at this point because when you when you bring people on and you ask them why did they choose Louisiana Tech or like even from a student perspective, think about a faculty or staff member that comes here from somewhere else. Like, why are you still here? Why have you worked here for 20 years? Whatever, the answers all fall into like the same category of like you know the community feel feels like home, the people, the place. It's just like they they might be worded differently, but the thread kind of passes through all of them. So you know what you're saying just kind of echoes a lot of what we hear from everyone else, so that makes a lot of sense. What has civil engineering been like for you? So obviously, it was something you knew you wanted to do, and you've stuck with it. But you know, talk. You mentioned we have a great engineering program, college here, and I know that they they place an emphasis on hands-on learning, and like from the very first year, you get to do things and projects that you wouldn't get to do in other places. So, what is what is studying civil engineering been like for you?

Jacob Brewster 04:28
Yeah, so it's it's definitely been difficult. I won't say that say that it was super easy because it's not. But it's it's like I said, the program here is super unique. So you come in as a prospective engineering student. You go to your first engineering class on your first or second day of school, and they're like, "Hey, here's this bag of parts. Go home and come back to class with a robot." Yeah, like whoa. You're kind of just thrown right into it. But the teachers, they all do a great job of like keeping. You like on track and answering any questions that you have, and so it's really cool. The first year of engineering here at Tech, you get to do six projects. Five of them are kind of follow along step by step in class, and then the sixth one is really cool. It's an open-ended project where you get together with a group of freshman engineers and kind of put your brains together to solve an engineering problem. My freshman year, me and two of my buddies, Christopher Pettis and Jake Cobb, we chose to be in a group together, and we came up with the idea of automatic storm shutters because being from Lake Charles in 2020 went through Hurricane Laura, and so just knowing like the effects of like hurricanes on people and stuff like that. I that's kind of where my brain was geared, and so we came up with the idea of like taking storm shutters and then adding a atmospheric pressure sensor. And whenever there was a dramatic dramatic change in barometric pressure, closing things up, and they were good to go. And so past freshman year, you kind of start getting into harder your harder classes, and then my sophomore and junior year were were very very hard and academic academically rigorous. Definitely, sophomore year is a heavy workload, and junior year you're starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. And then now that I'm my senior year, I did I did good my first three years, and so being able to kind of take a step back this

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year and relax and put more of my focus into union board president, yeah, and just being there for other people, and especially since I was in OSL this past summer, being there like for my freshmen whenever they need me, it has been such a blessing. So,

Gavin Kelly 06:31
what do you hope to do with with the degree? I know you mentioned before we started recording that you're thinking about sticking around, but like, kind of, what are your your career hopes and dreams.

Jacob Brewster 06:41
Yeah, so I'm going to graduate this spring with my bachelor's of civil engineering, and then I'm going to stick around probably until next winter. I think is what I'm on track for to get my land surveying certificate from Tech. I don't know if I want to go the more engineering route or more land surveying route or both. A lot of people say you should do dual license. It's a lot of time and effort, but we'll see. Land surveying and civil engineering kind of go hand in hand, and it's just something that I've has really piqued my interest lately is land surveying, just because it's not you're not behind a desk all day. You kind of get that 5050 where you're out in the field and back in the office, and that's something that I think I would really enjoy. And there's a big need for land surveyors, so why not?

Gavin Kelly 07:26
Yeah, yeah. So you know, you're mentioning kind of a need for not being trapped in an office all day. I think that kind of leads into my next line of questioning about you know how involved you are. Is that something that like you came to tech with, like an an outgoingness and and a kind of a desire to be involved, or is that something you kind of developed as you went along? Talk to me about like when that decision was made for you when you came here.

Jacob Brewster 07:51
Yeah, so in high school, my junior and senior years is when I it kind of ramped up for me to like starting to get involved. I was like I was a part of like high school soccer like all four years. I was in band all four years, but really in my junior and senior year of high schools when I started like get involved with like organizations and stuff. And so coming into tech, I was I was warned by my math teacher, Miss Steve Leah. She was like, you know, you should go to college and you should focus on your academics, and but you do need extracurriculars. And she said you should pick one or two to get involved in, and and put your focus into those so that you also have time for your academics. And I was like, okay, yeah, we'll see when I go and get there. So I came to college. I went through orientation, and my OSL was Gabe Barfield, and he was the vice president of Union Board, like for that for my freshman year. And so, getting to meet him, I learned more about Union Board and felt kind of just like fell in love with the idea of it. So I went through orientation, I came to Tech, and then I kind of started just like throwing myself into things and applying for things and just trying it out. And so, kind of like it all just started right off the bat. Like I went through fraternity rush my freshman year, joined Teague, and then like a week or two later, got on Union Board, and then two weeks after that, I got on TLC, which is the Tech Leadership Council, and just from there, it was just like hit the ground running. And luckily, I had a lot of people around me supporting me and helping me out as the people of tech do, and kind of help me find my way and like manage everything, and help me like help teach me how to like manage everything. And then later in that winter that winter quarter, my freshman year, I joined student recruiters, and so I

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for me it was kind of right off the bat. It was like jump in the deep end, kind of learn how to swim. Yeah. Luckily, I'm very fortunate and able to say that I was able to manage it all and didn't really have to say cyano or anything.

Gavin Kelly 09:52
Yeah. Yeah. It sounds like it worked out. And you mentioned too. You brought up a good point about having the right people to kind of guide you there. You know, like. It feels obvious with OSLs because all freshman year have to have some sort of fresh year experience, and you know, 99% of them are going to have a direct orientation experience with an OSL somehow. So usually, when we have OSLs on the podcast, they're able to say, "Oh, my OSL so and so had an effect on me and made me, you know, look up to them and you know, think about that. But also, that translates to Union Board too. I think you know, leadership in Union Board does a good job. I think when you think about our quote-unquote two big student orgs on campus, Union Board and SGA, you know, there's a lot of student leadering going on in there to where people like you back in your freshman year, deciding to take something like that on, can look up to and and follow along with. So, as you as you're going through union board, at what point do you decide to start taking on leadership positions within the organization? Was that something early on? You're like, oh, I can see myself as president one day, or is that something that kind of just like fell into your lap?

Jacob Brewster 10:57
I would say I'm a very natural leader. Always have been, and it's just a skill that I've been blessed with. And so, in high school, I had leadership opportunities, and then coming in my freshman year, a cool thing that we got to do my like new member class on union board that we got to do. Shout out Fall 23 if y'all are listening. But we came in, and our exec and the special events committee at the time allowed us to kind of plan our own event, which was cool. And so in that moment, I mean, we had 16 people or so in our class, and so it was kind of hard for them to be like, "Okay, you guys can plan an event, but we're all on the same level." And so, yeah, me and a couple others kind of stepped up and took the charge on like leading, like the planning of the event and stuff. And so that is what kind of spurred me into being like, oh, like I think I can do this. Like this is something that I think would be enjoyable. And I love event planning for people and like seeing events come together and like like seeing all my like labor and fruition like come to fruition, and seeing people enjoy it, and so then I was like, okay, what's what's the next step? And it was to become a committee head. And so my sophomore year, I was given the role of Las Vegas committee head, which Las Vegas is awesome.

Gavin Kelly 12:14
Yeah,

Jacob Brewster 12:14
personally, it's my favorite Union Board event that we have. We rent out casino tables and put them in our basketball arena and have students come in and gamble for free. And we have really cool prizes. They come in, they get fake money. They can go do blackjack poker, craps roulette, and then a lot of them end up with a ton of money at the end of the night, and then go and exchange those for tickets and put them in the prizes. And we have some really cool prizes. The the best prize is the white parking sticker. If you don't know tech, the white parking sticker lets you park anywhere on campus except for a

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handicap spot, and so people love that sticker. And that so that's my favorite event. I planned that my sophomore year, and then you know I got done with that, and I was like, well, what's the next step? Because my freshman year, I I looked at exec and was like, I think that's something I can do one day. I think I would love to do that and be able to like serve the people of like Union Board and Louisiana Tech in like this bigger capacity and this bigger role. And so I was like, okay, like what's my next step? I didn't think I was quite ready for president for my junior year, and so I looked at our production manager role, which is on exec, and the production manager role is basically they are almost like a third committee head because most of our events have two committee heads, and so it's like you're doing like the work that takes a lot of burden off the committee heads, like so that they can have creative freedom. So like I'm the one that's like building all their props or all their like activities and stuff for events. I'm the one that's making sure that like the event setup day of and like after the event like takedown is all smooth, making sure their work days are running good, and so that's the role of the production manager. And I did that all last year. I love that role. I love having my hands on and like building things and just being able to like take burden off of somebody else so that they can have that more creative light. And it was it was funny last year. Like people after events, like the committee heads, they'd be like, "Thank you so much, like for for doing this for us and like help me out." I'm like, "This is literally my job." Yeah, like I'm like you don't like thank you for saying thank you, but like this is literally my job, and so then, you know, at the beginning of last year, production manager, I was like, well, after this year, if I'm not burned out, like I would love to do president next year. And a lot of people like encouraged me. A lot of people on union board, like ever since my freshman year and sophomore year, were like, we can see you being president one day. We can see you like leading this organization, and so that's something that I was like. I mean, if if they see it in me, and I I felt like I was capable of doing it, I was like, well, let's do it. And so, took on the role in May, and I've learned that it's uh it's not as easy as I thought it was going to be. It's definitely definitely a lot more of a role. And just because you're not only like doing stuff internally within the organization, but you're also representing the organization for the campus and being involved in a lot of other stuff, and it's it's a lot of it is just time management, delegation, and learning to like jump from different project to different project. And so I've learned a lot, and I'm very very thankful for that. And the people of Union Board just make the job so easy to do. Yeah,

Gavin Kelly 15:23
I think too. You mentioned delegation. That's I think that's hard for any good leader because even if you got a good team underneath you, you feel like you're almost burdening them with stuff to do. But even though you know you know better, you know in your head like it's going to take everybody to work together. But you know we're almost here at the end of fall quarter. A couple like annual big union board events already done and dusted, so it probably feels good to like get through things a little bit at a time. What is what has the year been like for you as president?

Jacob Brewster 15:52
Yeah, so over the summer is is kind of a lot more relaxed. One thing that our my executive team is focusing on is fixing our constitution, just because it's it's very long, long winded, and something that like our organization has been like, we need to fix that. It's probably

Gavin Kelly 16:11

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outdated a little bit, yeah. Very outdated. We've

Jacob Brewster 16:13
been like, oh, we need to fix that, but nobody's been like, ah, I really want to do that because it's I mean it's constitutional. Yeah, nobody wants to write a constitution. Yeah, it's it's not super exciting, but that's one of our goals for the year, and so that was a big thing that we worked on over the summer, and then was just getting ready for the school year was another thing because you know you have an event in the fall, right? And so we had our first big event the first full week of school on a Thursday, and you're like, okay, well, what does that take to like plan that? Well, you have to jump back two and a half months, and that's when you start planning. So, if we had an event in Sep, the first week of September or the second week of September, we started planning that in July. And so, my committee heads for that, Adrian Lampkin and Abtarver, they started working that, working on planning the event in June and July, and we started putting things into effect July and August, and then saw it all come to fruition. And I'm I'm a very how could I put this? I guess I'm almost like kind of a perfectionist, and I have like high expectations. Yeah. And I have and I let people know around me. I'm like, hey, these are my expectations. Like they're high. I would I need you guys to meet them. How can I help you meet them? And so, I put a lot of stress on myself. And but you know, it it all came to fruition. We had our our welcome week. We we do events the first couple days of school, and that was my special my special events committee. And they were they were great. They did such an amazing job. And then that led straight into fall fling, and I was I was really stressed out about fall fling. I was like, I don't know, it's my first big event as president. Obviously, I'd seen three fall flings before they come, and I was like, but now the

Gavin Kelly 17:52
pressure's on. The pressure's on. Yeah, I was

Jacob Brewster 17:54
like, it's here, and so going into that event night before, me and Adrian and Abba all kind of met out in the plaza, and I was like, "All right, this is what has to happen." And they did such an amazing job. A lot of people like congratulated me on the event, and I was like, "Look, it's it's not me. Like it it's them. They did all the work. I was just there to support them through the whole process." And they they did such an amazing job. The event turned out great. We had the flukes come out all the way from New Jersey, they were such a great time. And then rolling off the high from that, it was like okay, like done it once. Now the bar's there. Yeah, we got to do it again. And so then rolling into two weeks ago, we had our annual Halloween event, Tech or Treat, which is also during homecoming week. I was blessed to be on the homecoming coming court this year, and so that also added another bit of stress on top of me. But I was, I was very same kind of deal. Like I was like stressed out about Tech or Treat, and I was like, like I need I need them to do a good job. And my committee heads for that, Kendall Goodwin and Andrew Phillips did such a phenomenal job. They were always ahead of the game and always like kind of surprising me with how good they were doing. They're they're phenomenal leaders themselves, and they they put on such an amazing event during the busiest week probably of my life. And it wasn't just them. My executive team helped out a ton with me that week and just helped kind of take the burden off me. But yeah, that event was great. We had, I want to say, 15 to 1600 people at that event. And for for those that don't know our tech or treat event, we kind of have like a main area down by Argent Pavilion,

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but the main attraction is our haunted maze that we put up in Hideaway Park. We had guys out there, my builders committee and Drew Daniel are production managers this year. They were out there like at 8am. Thursday morning putting up the maze. They were out there the night before working all day to get that maze set up, and it was it was phenomenal. They did such a good job.

Gavin Kelly 19:54
Yeah, so like the events keep coming, like obviously throughout the year. So just. By the time you celebrate one and one's good, it's time to start thinking about the next one, right? So as you look to the year ahead, you can you can if you'd like to, you can talk about kind of events specifically from now up through the spring if you'd like. But also, I'm I'm curious to know about kind of the impact you hope you're having on Union Board as president, like kind of what you hope you're doing for Union Board as a whole, and what you you know not to toss this word around lightly, but what you kind of hope the legacy you're leaving on Union Board is by the time it's all said and done.

Jacob Brewster 20:31
So yeah, as we're coming up on the end of fall quarter, like you said, we do have to look ahead, and I've already we've already been working on our winter events, and so actually next week, a week from, well, on november 12, we have our blind dating event, which is our special events is putting this on. I'm really excited for it. There's this trend on TikTok where you kind of get like a bunch of like people of one gender with a balloon, and then one person on the other side, and you kind of like have them ask questions, and then eventually you get it down to one person, one person, and hopefully they can they can go on a date. We're trying to get them to take express money so they can go to one of the restaurants in town and kind of go out on a date. Yeah, maybe we can spark up some love. Yeah, we'll see. But then our next big event is Tech the Halls. That is in December 10 th from six to 9pm. in Centennial Plaza. Planning for that is going great right now, and we are slowly chipping away at that, and we're super excited about that event. Then we have the annual Miss Tech pageant. Right, that's something that Union Board puts on, as well as we work with Miss Annie Jantz on that. She's phenomenal; does a great job with that every year. But that is going to be on January five th, and that is right when we get back from break for Christmas. That is a great event. We always love doing that one, and then after that, our third big event for January or for winter quarter, sorry, is going to be Mardi Gras Mambo on february 2, and that one is always such a good event. And that one's going to be in the plaza, I believe, with the parade as always. And so those are our big events for the quarter. And then we'll have our special events too, some smaller events. But we're working on finalizing those.

Gavin Kelly 22:18
Yeah, one one step at a time, right? Step at a time, yeah. So, yeah, going to the second. I didn't mean to double up that question on you, but the second part of that question, yeah, about kind of, you know, what you hope your impact on Union Board is, and what your vision has kind of been coming into this, and if you've seen that realized, and and kind of again the legacy of it all. Once you once it's time for you to toss the presidency to someone else,

Jacob Brewster 22:40
yeah. So legacy. I want to leave a legacy for Union Board of one that kind of sets up the next people up for success. Obviously, I want to raise the bar for our events and make them better than we had last

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year. And but that's a goal that every year should have. Every year should be like, okay, how can we push the ticket? How can we make this event better. How can we change this event? But what I want to do is I want to make next year's exec have an easier time than I had, than last year's exec had, than the year before that, and just like so that they can do their best to have the union board run as smoothly as possible. Because we've talked about that. I've talked about this with our advisor Wes before. It's it's hard like rolling over every year having new leadership because you. I mean, it would it'd be so much easier if you could have a president for three years, four years, and then turn it over, because then you'd like actually get accustomed to everything you have to do in your first year, and then those other two three years are easy.

Gavin Kelly 23:44
But that's a lot to put on a freshman or a sophomore, right? Exactly. Yeah, yeah.

Jacob Brewster 23:47
So it's and that's just not how it works, you know. With student organizations, is you have that turnover a year every year, and so one thing that we're trying to do is to set up systems and put it like on paper, like this is what you need to do for this event, or this is what you need to do for this process. How can we make your life easier and put processes like in so that the president can kind of have like a list of things that they need to do next year and be like during this time of the year this what you should be doing during this time of the year this what you should be doing and the legacy that I want to leave is making the people the people's jobs easier, so that their creative freedom can just open up so much more. Is what I want to do.

Gavin Kelly 24:30
Yeah, I mean, it sounds like you're doing that too. I think it's hard to like lead your peers, and you've you've kind of touched on this as we've talked today, but to like have to delegate or or dish out, you know, instructions or if you want to call them demands or orders or whatever, it's hard to do when it's somebody that you were just serving alongside side by side just a year before, right? So like, I think establishing early, and it sounds like it's what you've done is like, you know, like on paper, guys, I might be the president. But like I'm here to help you, and I'm I'm one of you, and I was one of you just just a year ago. So I think that's evident. I think I think it's it's it shows in the way that events are unfolding this year, and and the process leading up to the events. But a lot of hard work ahead. I'm sure you're you're all locked in for it. So good luck with that. One more question before we let you go. As someone who came into tech outgoing already with a desire to be involved, got very involved, has managed to juggle a lot of plates, and as someone who's also you know you've had a lot of experience with student recruiters, OSL, even in Union Board to a degree, of you know trying to get other students to be involved. So, what is your pitch to current student, prospective student, you know, anyone you can think of, like your case for why it's a good thing to come to a place like Louisiana Tech, join a club, join an organization, go to ball fling, whatever. Like, why are these things something that all students should consider.

Jacob Brewster 26:02
Yeah, that's a great question. So, even getting people to tech in the first hand, whenever it comes like student recruiting, is it's cool. So they they come in for a tour, and you like like we talked about earlier.

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You have you try to show them the magic of this campus in a matter of an hour, and hopefully it works. Hopefully, you know they see that like this place is different. This place is special. Just and normally it works. Yeah, like tech is just such a special place, and it attracts the kind of people who actually like care, and people that like want to show up to things, and people that want to be involved and like want to give back. And so then, you know, if you hook them and you get them here to tech, then it's like hopefully you know they have a good time in orientation. Orientation to tech is something that is special, something that's different from other. It's

Gavin Kelly 26:51
pivotal too, isn't it? Very pivotal. Make or break. Make or break.

Jacob Brewster 26:53
And and you come in and you like hopefully meet some people. Hopefully your OSL does a great job of like, you know, pointing you out and being like, how can I help you? And I think being at Nosol this past summer, I think I had a question from one of my freshmen. They were like, why Why can't we just do this in a day? Like, why do we have to come here Wednesday and Thursday and Friday? And and I sat there and I was like, Because we're not like other universities. We don't just yeah have you come in for the day and shoved all this information down your throat and be like, "Here, here's how you're gonna, you know, go through our school." Not like, "How are we gonna set you up for success?"

Gavin Kelly 27:31
Yeah,

Jacob Brewster 27:32
that's what we do. Just

Gavin Kelly 27:32
herd them all like cattle in one room. We're gonna let them all schedule their classes and send them on the road. No,

Jacob Brewster 27:37
we want you to come in and have an experience. We want you to come in and make friends, set you up for success, and that that's what our orientation does. It's like set student up for success, and you know, hopefully they lean in. Hopefully it's it's it's cool seeing them come in Wednesday. They're very shy. There there are some of them that are more open and stuff, and those are your outgoing people. But they haven't come in, and even outgoing people, they're they're shy. They're not, you know, the loudest in the room at the very beginning. And it's so cool seeing them 24 hours later, Thursday night after presents. They're just like a completely different person. Yeah. Um. And you see that they've made friends. You see that it's just such like such a special process. Yeah. We talked too. We

Gavin Kelly 28:18
had um with you know Sarah and Tate, like all the OSLs have been on, not just this year, but recently. Like we talk about too, how just watching not just kids within one orientation open up, but from the first one to the last one of the summer, I feel like those groups of kids open up more as you go throughout

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the summer. And so, like by the time you get to the last orientation, all the OSLs are comfortable because they've been doing it, and all the kids are comfortable because it's it's the last session. It's the end of the summer; they're ready to get going. So, like, I feel like you see a lot of that opening up as the as the summer goes on. So, yeah, just to your point,

Jacob Brewster 28:50
yeah, definitely, definitely very cool seeing just like the difference between the sessions. And then once you get them here to Tech, you know, they go through orientation, they get their classes, and they come back in the fall. And a lot of them they are super duper excited to get back here in the fall. A lot of them, like in the earlier sessions, like session one or two, they're like, "You're telling me I have to wait until September to come back and experience this again." And I'm like, "Yeah, like yeah, like I'm sorry, but yes, like we don't start." I

Gavin Kelly 29:14
know it's only June. We

Jacob Brewster 29:16
don't start school until September, so enjoy the rest of your summer. But yeah, and they get here and they're pumped. Like they they come in, and the cool thing that Tech does during freshman move in is dog haul. And it's it's just so cool seeing everybody at Tech care so much and like want to see these freshmen succeed and help them just like move boxes and like get their stuff in their dorm, carry fridge, whatever, yeah, whatever, like anything. And so they come in, and then from there, it's like a lot of them they they want to get involved and so they apply for for this they they go through rush they apply for union board they want to join TLC um and it is just such an amazing thing seeing them get involved and like start their tech journey that that is something cool that I I've loved seeing yeah um is like these freshmen come. And starting their tech journey because that was me like two years ago, and just being there for them to like encourage them and help them through like hardships is has just been such like a blessing. And like I encourage like every freshman that I meet like try to get involved like whether it's one organization, whether it's two organizations, like because the the people the what's going to make your tech experience to the people, and the more involved you are, the more people you're going to meet, and the more opportunities you're going to get, the more relationships you're going to make, and that's just a cool thing. Like that's just what tech is. Yeah, is just the people, and so getting involved. I encourage everyone to get involved to whatever capacity that is, whether it's within your major, whether it's serving the campus, whether whatever it is, and it it just proves time and time again. Like whenever people do get involved, they they just fall more in love with tech.

Gavin Kelly 30:50
It's just math, right? It's just like the more people you expose your your energy to and your time to, and the more groups you're a part of, and the more people you meet, the more friends you make, the more connections you have, and then when your college experience is done, that's just a bigger bounty that you can sit on top of and you know move on into the rest of your next chapter of your life with. So yeah, very well said. Well, Jacob, thanks again for for coming on and making time. I know, like we said, busy quarter. It may be winding now, but finals are always a tough thing. But no matter what your curriculum

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is looking like this year, you also have a lot of union board obligations and your other involvement. So again, thanks for making time for us, and appreciate having you on. Yeah, yeah,

Jacob Brewster 31:31
appreciate you, Gavin. Sure thing. Good time. Go dogs. Go dogs. Always.

Gavin Kelly 31:47
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