2020-21 Executive Goals - Summary

Madeleine Stinson: President

Madeleine is the chief spokesperson for the student union. Madeleine sits on the Dalhousie Board of Governors and Senate. She also oversees all day-to-day operations of the Union and regularly represents students to government officials and senior administrators at the university.

Internal Affairs

- Conduct a full review of the DSU's governing documents with the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee to ensure efficacy and accountability.
- Conduct a full review of the DSU's governing documents with the Response Committee to ensure values of survivor-centrism, due-process, fairness & transparency.
- Development of the Strategic Plan to add mission and vision statements, and develop 5, 7, and 10 year goals.
- Increase the presence of the DSU on campus through better use of social media and more executive involvement.
- Work with the Vice President, Internal on the development of several issues policies.
- Commission a mural for the SUB.

University Affairs

- Work with the Alcohol Advisory Committee and Student Affairs Office to review the liquor policy and options for bar services on campus.
- Work within the Board of Governors and Senate to advocate for better student support and increased accountability to students.

External Affairs

- Work with various levels of government and the Post-Secondary Education (PSE) sector to safely navigate Covid-19 developments.
- Continue lobbying efforts, in collaboration with the Vice President, External and Academic, to increase funding for PSE, implement a tuition freeze, and provide better support for the diverse student population in Nova Scotia.
Hanna Stewart: Vice-President, Internal

Hanna facilitates all student union societies and oversees all communications—including official correspondence and the Student Union website. Hanna also chairs several committees, including the Student Accessibility Fund, Sexton Campus Advisory, Society Review Committee.

Internal Affairs

- Release Annual Survey (2019/20) and Annual Survey Report; Create and release 2021 Annual Survey.
- Plan online Society & Volunteer Expos for fall & winter.
- Create and release a “Constitution Template” for Faculty & Levy Societies
- Help draft and finalize the new DSU website.
- Create a “What is the DSU” information booklet to educate Members on services, fee breakdowns, and internal processes.
- Facilitate conversation to separate SUB prayer space from the Wellness Room into two distinct spaces.
- Write Student Accessibility Fund Committee and Sexton Advisory Committee into the DSU Bylaws.
- Collaborate with the DSU President, Dalhousie Indigenous Students Collective, ISR, and constituents to formulate the Indigenous Students Issues Policy.
- Create and release a new Annual Society Survey for feedback on the VPI and DSU internal processes.
- Plan and facilitate a Society Mixer to introduce collaboration between societies.
- Facilitate conversation on a permanent Sexton Loaded Ladle location and/or Sexton Wellness Room.
Isa Wright: Vice President, Finance & Operations

Isa oversees all of the student union's finances and oversees many operational aspects of the Union including Tiger Patrol. Isa audits the books of levied societies and is responsible for writing the student union's yearly budget.

Internal Affairs

- Streamline the audit process so that it is entirely online, faster, and has a maximum turnaround time of 10 business days.
- Improve treasurer training and implement bi-weekly training throughout the academic year, including a monthly treasurer newsletter.
- Improve the DSU bursary and grant application processes so that they are more user-friendly, with improved communications and turnaround time - including sample applications, FAQ guidelines, and simplified application forms. Increase promotion of the program to ensure members are informed of the financial support(s) offered by the DSU.
- Consult with DSU offices, services, and business during 2020-21 budget planning.
- Create a webpage which will continually be updated with external funding opportunities, including society sponsorship opportunities, bursary applications, and other sources of funding.
- Collaborate with student leaders on campus to offer sponsorship workshops and knowledge-sharing between societies.
Erica Seelemann: Vice President, Academic & External

Erica is responsible for the student union's advocacy and campaigns on academic and student issues, including tuition fees, student debt, academic integrity, and equity issues. Erica also sits on the Dalhousie Senate and represents students on various university committees and through municipal, provincial, and federal lobby efforts. Erica chairs the Academic and External Affairs committees and the student union's Senate Caucus.

Internal Affairs
- Support the planning of the Racial Justice Symposium

University Affairs
- Develop a proposal to bring forward to the Senate in regard to Student Ratings of Course Content (SRCC), a survey that will allow students to identify lack of diversity and/or oppressive course content in their classes.
- Responding to issues of anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism on campus and in our community, with a focus on improving Dalhousie's mechanisms for holding individuals responsible for their actions.
- Responding to issues identified in the Strople Report as a part of the process of hiring a new Ombudsperson.
- Advocacy efforts focused on Open Educational Resources.
- Advocating for improved and culturally appropriate and supportive mental health resources.

External Affairs
- Extended work lobbying the government for a tuition freeze, including the NS Needs Students Rally and follow-up events and meetings.
- Ongoing representation of Dalhousie students at various levels of government.
Jad Ghiz: Vice President, Student Life

Jad facilitates student union activities that aim to increase student spirit on campus including Orientation Week, the Impact Awards, and various other activities. Jad is also responsible for promoting varsity athletics on campus, chairing a number of event related committees and overseeing the activities of the DSU’s Shinerama campaign.

Internal Affairs
- Plan a covid-conscious Orientation Week with extended programming into the fall semester as well as a “Frost Week” in the winter semester.
- Incorporate principles of harm reduction in all programming.
- Continue work on addressing student mental health issues, including the development of programming and/or campaigns to support student mental health and self-care during online classes.
  - Study halls, community meals, exam prep support, etc.
- Collaborate with LGBTQ2SIA organizations on covid-conscious Pride programming.
- Run a Movember campaign.
- Collaborate with societies and community organizations to support African Heritage initiatives.
- Host a “Last Class Bash”

University Affairs
- Collaborate with the TedX team at Dalhousie to run a TEDxDalhousie event.
- Work with Student Affairs and the Residences to ensure student safety and strong community.
- Facilitate conversation with Dalhousie Health and Wellness unit on the Mental Health Forum or similar programming.

External Affairs
- Work with the Healthy Minds NS Committee to support student mental health initiatives in Nova Scotia.