

Dalhousie Student Union Building | 6136 University Avenue PO Box 15000 | Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4R2

**T** 902.494.2140 **F** 902.494.5185 dsu.ca • @dalstudentunion

# **Report of the President**

Madeleine Stinson

Reporting Period: January 09 – 22, 2021

Council Date: January 28, 2021

## **Internal Affairs and DSU Committees**

#### **Executive Committee Meetings**

January 15: Update on Covid-related operational changes. Review of quote for automated printer. Decision in Impact Awards involvement. Discussion on provincial funding announcement. Built agenda for upcoming senior admin meeting.

January 18: Confirmation on Loaded Ladle equipment. Agreement on criteria for staff working from home and taking sick days. Confirmation of hours and wage for part time Foodbank staff. Discussion on what jobs to apply for the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

January 22: Discussion on Annual Survey prizes. Approval of \$5000.00 capital projects allocation to Mural. Agreement on the scope of the Mental Health Bursary. Notes given to RTC regarding hybrid learning. Updates on council procedure. VPSL, Director Research & Outreach update on Valentine's Day cards.

#### Other Meetings/Tasks

January 12, 7pm: DSU Council.

January 14, 10:30am: Health and Dental Meeting with Student VIP and staff. Review of last year's reports.

January 15, 12:30: Senate and Board preparation meeting with VPAE, Policy & Governance Coordinator, Director Research & Outreach.

January 18, 2:45pm: Meeting with Director Operations, Director Research & Outreach, Ascension management regarding resumption of services and rent payments. Agreement made for Ascension to provide a proposed rent amount by Friday, January 22 and tentative agreement for Ascension to offer services as of Feb 22, 2021. DSU agreed to provide promotional services and communicated Council's awareness of negotiations.

January 20, 10am: Meeting with Selection Committee for DSU Mural acquisition, developed request for proposal criteria.

January 21, 1:30pm: Meeting with Societies Coordinator, Policy & Governance Coordinator, VPI, Director Research & Outreach to discuss amendments to the Society Policy.

January 21, 5:30pm: Student Senate Caucus meeting cancelled; meeting with Student Senator to discuss issues in Faculty of Engineering.

January 22, 10:30am: Meeting with Director Research & Outreach, Policy & Governance Coordinator to discuss request for proposal for Governance Review.

#### **University Affairs and Committees**

January 11, 1:30pm: Meeting with HRES, Director Research & Outreach, DSU Equity & Accessibility Office regarding African Heritage Month planning.

January 11, 3pm: Senate Meeting.

January 12, 9am: First monthly meeting with Deep Saini, Dalhousie President. Discussion on partnership between university and DSU, key student issues.

January 13, 10am: Meeting with Dalhousie Analytics, Institutional Analyst, faculty, staff, regarding Dalhousie census reporting and analysis on intersectional identities. Recommendation made that data reporting needs to identify key findings and responding action items to address issues.

January 14, 3:30pm: Meeting with Dalhousie Budget Advisory Committee to provide feedback on current report. Recommendations on student engagement and communication, budget priorities.

January 14, 4:30pm: Return to Campus Committee meeting. No substantial notes.

January 15, 3pm: Meeting with VPAE, Registrar's staff, Vivian Howard, Verity Turpin, regarding inter-university communication on academic-related policy and Senate items.

January 20, 9am: Meeting with senior admin to discuss international students, mental health services, and allocation of \$9.5 million in public funding. Administration communicated that the public funding had been allocated to the reserve budget to make up for funds pulled to cover budget shortfall.

January 20, 12pm: DSU/Student Affairs meeting to discuss residence living guide, consultation framework, student affairs framework.

January 20, 1:30pm: Meeting with Leanne French to request DSU feedback on Accessibility Plan. Details to come to Council once document are provided by Dal.

January 20, 2pm: Senate Planning and Governance Committee meeting.

January 21, 4:30pm: Return to Campus Committee meeting. Notes circulated to Executive Committee, available upon request.

January 22, 3:30: Meeting with Verity Turpin, Heather Sutherland, Leanne French, Emily Huner to discuss terms of University's liquor license, purview over societies, and DSU's independent liquor license.

### **External and Broader Community**

January 09: Statement for Chronicle Herald on DFA negotiations.

January 12, 10am: Interview with student for RBC Sustainability Leadership Certificate.

January 13, 2pm: Courage 2 Act workshop.

January 15, 11am: Interview with Dalhousie Gazette regarding international student isolation.

#### **Board of Governors Caucus Updates**

No significant updates.

#### **Upcoming Dates**

- January 27, Request for Proposal for Mural goes out
- February 16, Request for Proposal for Mural deadline
- February 09, Board of Governors Meeting



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## Report of the Vice President, Academic and External

Name: Erica Seelemann

Reporting Period: January 9, 2020- January 25, 2021

Council Date: January 28, 2021

#### Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

- 1. External Committee (EC)
  - a. EC met on January 12<sup>th</sup> and discussed updates on the awards and accommodations issued raised at an earlier meeting. EC members were concerned because students with accommodations registered with the government have a full course load of 4 courses compared to the standard 5 courses. These students are not automatically being considered for the same awards that require you to be taking a full course load with 5 courses. Our Vice-President Internal followed up with these offices.
- 2. Accessibility Fund Committee
  - a. Met on January 15<sup>th</sup> to review applications.
- 3. Ongoing work developing translations of policies related to academic integrity

#### **University Affairs and Committees**

- 1. Ongoing with Senior Administration and Faculty about developing a Student Ratings of Course Content (SRCC), which will be focused on oppressive content in the classroom.
  - a. Consulted with Dr. Laura Neals on January 12<sup>th</sup>. No concerns were raised.
  - b. Reached out to the Dalhousie's Black Faculty and Staff Caucus for consultation. They will circulate out proposal and let us know about any feedback they receive.
  - c. Reached out the (dis)Ability Caucus for Faculty and Staff. Currently waiting a response
- 2. I was a panel member on a Senate Discipline Committee hearing held January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- 3. January 13<sup>th,</sup> I attended a Winter Assessment Planning meeting with Associate Deans of Academics from the Faculties of Arts and Social Science, Science, Engineering, and Management to discuss their plans for assessing academic accommodation needs this semester and implementing these accommodations. Faculties are currently focused on assessing the effect of the PASS/ILL and departmental recommendations before they begin implementing other changes.
  - a. I will be added to further Academic Quality Taskforce meetings
  - b. January 18<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Senate e-Learning Committee. Meetings are confidential.

1. Fe	ebruary 8 <sup>th</sup> 20	)20: Open Edi	ucational Re	sources pres	entation in Se	nate	
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## Report of the Vice President, Internal

Name: Hanna Stewart

Reporting Period: Jan. 9th -22nd,

Council Date: January 28th, 2021

#### Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

- Society Support
  - I worked with the Dalhousie Commerce Society, assisting them as they prepared for their AGM.
- Society Expo & Event Planning
  - Met with our Societies& Programming Coordinator to ensure we have a succinct plan for our Society Expo and opened the discussion for more society engagement opportunities.
- Society-wide Email
  - Sent the January society-wide email
- Bursary Policy Review
  - Continued to review the Bursary Policy before finalizing the draft with Council
- Annual Survey & Society Survey Planning
  - Most of the reporting period was spent drafting, reviewing, and completing survey questions. Next is to transfer these to the appropriate platform and discuss incentives.
- Emergency Bursary Committee Meeting Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - This newly formed bursary committee met to discuss and approve incoming applications.
- Accessibility Fund Committee Jan 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - The committee met to continue to approve and issue the bursaries. The committee has since submitted a proposal request for extra funding so that we can continue to approve and issue bursaries for the remainder of the semester.
- Offices Steering Committee Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - The committee met to hear updates from our Office Directors and to provide support where needed.

- Society Policy Review January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021
  - Relevant executives and staff met to discuss the overhaul of the policy and next steps.

## **University Affairs and Committees**

- DSU/Senior Administration Meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - The executives met with Dalhousie Administration to discuss pertinent student issues.

## **External and Broader Community**

N/A

### Society Review Committee Updates

• SRC last met on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We did not ratify any new societies but discussed some uprising issues from societies to keep our eye on.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Society & Volunteer Expo – February 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>!