Report of the President

Name: Madeleine Stinson

Reporting Period: November 11 – November 24, 2021

Council Date: November 29, 2021

Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

- General attendance at Operations, Research & Outreach, and prep meetings.
- Ongoing preparation for exam week programming.
- Finalization of space agreement for Sexton Campus with the Dalhousie Undergraduate Engineering Society (DUES).

Executive Committee Meetings

November 17: Discussion on the status of member grant applications and awards. Decision on re-allocation of additional funds from budget revision process. Scheduling of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting. Decision on the multi-faith space renovations. Executive scheduling for Winter 2022. Preparation for meeting with DAL senior admin. Discussion and decision on how to allocate cubicles on the 2nd floor of the SUB for better use.

November 24: Update on the Mental Health Forum and planning. Communications reminders. Decision on bursary specifications. Discussion on information for students during the upcoming travel-heavy season.

Additional Meetings

November 15, 10am: Meeting with staff to discuss prospective extension of Loaded Ladle services on to Sexton Campus.

November 15, 7pm: DSU Council.

November 18, 11am: DSU Winter Pride planning meeting.

November 19, 9:30am: Meeting with Loaded Ladle, DSU Sustainability Office, and DUES to discuss expanding services of Loaded Ladle onto Sexton.

November 19, 4pm: Student Senate Caucus meeting.

November 23, 2:30pm: DSU Winter Pride planning meeting.
November 24, 10:30am: Meeting with DSU Vice President, Academic & External to discuss Senate in-camera status.

University Affairs and Committees

November 18, 2:30pm: Dalhousie Alcohol Advisory Committee meeting.

November 18, 4pm: Meeting with DSU executive and DAL senior admin.

November 23, 3pm: Dalhousie Board of Governor’s meeting. Documents attached.

External and Broader Community

N/A

Board of Governors Caucus Updates

Documents attached.

Upcoming Dates

1. On December 7-9th the DSU will be serving breakfast at 11pm in the SUB to late-night studiers.

2. The DSU Offices will close on December 10th for the winter break. The SUB will remain open until December 24th at noon. DSU services and businesses will shut down between the 10th and 24th.
Report of the Vice President, Internal

Name: Truelee Love

Reporting Period: November 11, 2021 – November 24, 2021

Council Date: November 29, 2021

Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

1. Nov 16: Communications Meeting.
2. Nov 18 & 23: Winter Pride Planning Meetings to discuss events, dates and ideas for winter pride with societies interested in partnering with us.
3. Nov 18: Research and Outreach Meeting.

University Affairs and Committees

1. Nov 16: Attended the Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FASS) monthly Faculty meeting.
2. Nov 28: Meeting with DAL Senior Administration. Had the opportunity to discuss working towards divestment at Dalhousie.

External and Broader Community

1. Nov 19: Loaded Ladle on Sexton campus discussion.
   a. Met with representatives from the Loaded Ladle, DSU Sustainability Office (DSUSO), Dalhousie Undergraduate Engineering Society (DUES), and the DSU executive to discuss food security on Sexton campus and plans for the future.

Society Review Committee Updates

1. Attempted to convene an SRC meeting multiple times but unable to reach quorum. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for November 30, 2021.

Upcoming Dates

1. N/A
Report of the Vice President, Finance and Operations

Name: Mohab Brisha

Reporting Period: November 11 – November 24, 2021

Council Date: November 29, 2021

Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

1. Planned and chaired the Budget and Finance Committee’s first meeting of the year to review the revised budget and approve the new auditors.

2. Reviewed the most recent draft of the International Student Issues Policy, which will be proceeding to the consultation phase soon.

3. Conducted society audits.

4. Met with representatives from Student VIP and discussed the claims made over the last year.

5. Met with the Financial Controller to discuss budget revisions.

6. International Student Emergency Bursary Committee (ISEBC) meeting held successfully.

University Affairs and Committees

1. Attended Transportation and Security Committee meeting. Learned about a nuclear facility that used to exist at Dalhousie.

2. Met with DAL Senior Administration.

External and Broader Community

1. N/A

Grants and Sponsorship Committee Updates
1. Grants Committee Meeting held successfully. We have been getting lots of society grant applications and have been discussing allocating more funds for society grants to better support our societies.

Upcoming Dates

1. N/A
Report of the Vice President, Academic and External

Name: Frey Verth

Reporting Period: November 1 – November 24, 2021

Council Date: November 29, 2021

Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

- Nov 1 – 12: Transition meetings and VPAE onboarding process. Reading University policy, DSU policy, and StudentVIP / health coverage documents. Informal meetings and canvassing around general student issues.
- Nov 10: Council prep meeting.
- Nov 14: Further examination into StudentVIP coverage / caps / local conditions / drug pricing.
- Nov 15: First Office / outreach day. Tested scheduling of 10am – 5pm for Office / outreach.
- Nov 18: Research and Outreach meeting. Discussion of winter programming.
- Nov 22: Student VIP end of year report presented to Executive team.
  - Asked questions regarding current international student coverage / exemptions.
  - Focus on disparity between expectations of international students compared to domestic students.
  - Identified multiple points of ethical contention and necessity of re-wording for overly broad / open language.
  - Committed to reviewing and proposing revisions to our health coverage, with a focus on equity and accessibility (ongoing).
- Nov 23: Finished line by line audit of international student health coverage policy exemptions and forwarded itemized "wish list" to relevant parties.
  - Meeting with DSU President regarding default "in-camera" status for senate committee meetings.
  - Attended scheduled meeting with a student regarding general academic issues.

University Affairs and Committees

- Nov 12: Meeting with Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service (DSAS) and the University’s new Ombudsperson.
- Nov 18: DSU Executive Committee and Senior Admin meeting.
External and Broader Community

- Nov 12: Meeting with student unions and organizations regarding proposal to Council of Nova Scotia University Presidents (CONSUP).
  - Union and organization reps highlighted the following issues to prioritize in proposal to CONSUP:
    - Funding / Tuition
    - Open board meetings / transparency
    - Truth and reconciliation calls to action
    - Development of Open educational resources
    - Climate justice / divestment

Senate Caucus Updates

- Nov 19: Student Senate Caucus meeting.
  - Looked for documents in VPAE email account, for context and in preparation for the meeting.
  - Discussion regarding proposed 1-year suspension of student ratings of course content.
    - Student senators raised concerns about the suspension (highlights):
      - Immediacy / currency of need
      - Content should already have been designed with EDIA in mind.
      - Questions could still be asked this year and be revised for next year.

- Nov 22: Senate meeting.
  - Student ratings of course content questions suspended for 1 year.
    - As per previous point: This was contrary to student interests.
  - Bachelor of Engineering - Materials Engineering terminated.
  - Proposal for Center for Sustainable Soil Management passed.
  - Proposal for Creation of Black Studies Research Institute passed.
  - Brief discussion occurred regarding student cost of living and housing.

- Nov 23: Academic Quality Team meeting
  - Discussion regarding new equity and accessibility education resources (largely faculty facing).
  - Open Educational Resources discussed.
    - Question raised regarding the availability of certification from OERs (for recognizing completion of resources / providing credentials where they may assist).
    - Highlighted MIT Opencourseware's model (allowed for marked assignments / testing in exchange for certification).

Upcoming Dates
Senate meeting on December 13, 2021.
Report of the Vice President, Student Life

Name: Mazen Brisha
Reporting Period: November 11 – November 24, 2021
Council Date: November 29, 2021

Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

1. Conducted an assessment of international and domestic student health insurance policies to evaluate what recommendations could be made regarding the DSU’s health coverage.
2. Received T-shirts and prizes for the Move4Movemeber campaign to be given away throughout the week.
3. Hosted a private spin class for students in collaboration with Just Cycle on November 23rd and the 25th.
4. Finalized Mental Health Forum dates for the rest of the year.
5. Finalized tech requests for the Move4Movember 5km run.
6. Weekly programming planning meeting with the events commissioner to plan for winter semester events.
7. Facilitated a mental health and exercise workshop with Dalhousie Health and Wellness.
8. Worked with the Impact Awards Committee to finalize date and location as well as a communication plan for the event.

University Affairs and Committees

1. Attended meetings with Dal After Dark to coordinate programming efforts.
2. Met with residence to discuss winter semester collaborations.

External and Broader Community

1. Attended HealthyMindsNS Committee Meeting.

Upcoming Dates

1. N/A