

# DSU Council Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date and Time: Friday, January 26, 2024 - 6:30 PM

Location: Council Chambers

## Land Acknowledgement

*The Dalhousie Student Union acknowledges that Dalhousie University and the Dalhousie Student Union Building are located on traditional, unceded and unsurrendered Mi'kma'ki territory. The Dalhousie Student Union seeks to honour the relational treaty process in its programming, events, and meetings.*

## Equity Statement

*Student union solidarity is based on the principle that all members should be able to participate equally in their union, recognizing that students have diverse experiences of privilege and marginalization. As members of the students' union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We should neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity of any individual or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.*

*It is our collective responsibility to create an inclusive space for discussion and dialogue. Any form or forms of discrimination and/or harassment will not be tolerated, nor will hate speech rooted in, but not limited to, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic or transphobic sentiments and/or remarks. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate is established. If you violate this understanding, you will be asked to leave.*

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by the Council Chair.

## 2. Roll Call

PRESENT
Mariam Knakriah – President
Thomais (Tammy) Maniou – Vice-President, Internal
Henry Amin – Vice-President, Finance & Operations
Omotayo Bankole - Vice-President, Academic and External
Ana Patton - Vice-President, Student Life

<p>Ryan Dee - Board of Governors Representative 2</p> <p>Nick d'Entremont - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative</p> <p>Mustafa Zahid - Faculty of Engineering Representative</p> <p>Sydney Forbes - Faculty of Medicine Representative</p> <p>Victoria Slipp - Faculty of Science Representative</p> <p>Anand Lo - International Students' Community Representative</p> <p>Carmen Minnis - Women's Students Representative</p>
<b>ABSENT WITH REGRETS</b>
<p>Eshan Arora – Board of Governor Representative 1</p> <p>Eni Oguntona – Faculty of Law Representative</p>
<b>ABSENT WITHOUT REGRETS</b>
<p>Kailey Simon - Indigenous Students' Community Representative</p> <p>Rowan Keith Menezes - Faculty of Graduate Studies Representative</p>
<b>VACANT POSITIONS</b>
<p>Faculty of Management Representative</p> <p>Faculty of Architecture Representative</p> <p>Residence Students' Community Representative</p> <p>2SLGBTQIA+ Students Community Representative</p> <p>Disabled Student's Community Representative</p> <p>Faculty of Dentistry Representative</p> <p>Faculty of Agriculture Representative</p> <p>Faculty of Computer Science Representative</p> <p>Faculty of Health Representative</p>
<b>NON-VOTING MEMBERS</b>

**\*Quorum was met\***

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

MOTION 2024-01-26-3.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the present meeting be adopted as presented.

*Moved by the Vice-President Student Life*

*Seconded by the Vice-President Internal*

**MOTION 2024-01-26-3.1 Passes**

### **4. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

MOTION 2024-01-26-4.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Council meeting on January 12, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

*Moved by the Faculty of Engineering Rep*

*Seconded by the Board of Governor Representative 2*

**MOTION 2024-01-26-4.1 Passes**

*Documents attached.*

### **5. Communications Received**

None

Motion is Moved to Omnibus MOTION 2024-01-26-6.1 to MOTION 2024-01-26-6.4

*Moved by the Vice-President*

*Seconded by the Faculty of Science Representative*

**MOTION Passes**

### **6. Appointment of Council**

MOTION 2024-01-26-6.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Mustafa Zahid** and **Ryan Dee** is appointed to Councillor seat on the External Committee for the 2023-24 year;

*Moved by the Vice President, Academic and External*

*Seconded by the Faculty of Science Representative*

*MOTION 2024-01-26-6.1 Passes*

MOTION 2024-01-26-6.2

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Manuga Yuthmin** is appointed to Faculty of Computer Science Representative on the DSU Council for the 2023-24 year;

*Moved by the President*

*Seconded by the Faculty of Science Representative*

*MOTION 2024-01-26-6.2 Passes*

*Recommended by the Oversight Committee*

*Document Attached*

MOTION 2024-01-26-6.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Haileigh Macleod** is appointed to Faculty of Health Professions Representative seat on the DSU Council for the 2023-24 year;

*Moved by the President*

*Seconded by the Faculty of Science Representative*

*MOTION 2024-01-26-6.3 Passes*

*Recommended by the Oversight Committee*

*Document Attached*

MOTION 2024-01-26-6.4

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Katie Brousseau** is appointed to the Disabled Students' Community Representative seat on the DSU Council for the 2023-24 year;

*Moved by the President*

*Seconded by the Faculty of Science Representative*

*MOTION 2024-01-26-6.4 Passes*

*Recommended by the Oversight Committee*

*Document Attached.*

## **7. New Business**

Motion is moved to amend the referenda policy to include a new clause for the COOP students.

*“Students planning to enrol in COOP during the executive term are ineligible to run for these positions due to the demanding time commitments and intensive workload associated with these roles.”*

*Moved by the President*

*Seconded by the Vice-President, Student Life*

**MOTION Passes**

MOTION 2024-01-26-7.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the amendments to the Elections and Referenda Policy be adopted as circulated.

*Moved by the President.*

*Seconded by the Vice-President Internal*

**MOTION 2024-01-26-7.1 Passes**

*Document attached.*

MOTION 2024-01-26-7.2

BE IT RESOLVED that the DSU Council approves the Dalhousie Medical Student Society’s referenda question:

***Do you support increasing the Dalhousie Medical Student Society (DMSS) fee from \$59.00 to \$67.00 annually for full time students? This question applies only to Halifax and NB campuses.***

*Moved by the Vice-President, Finance and Operations*

*Seconded by the President*

**MOTION 2024-01-26-7.2 Passes**

MOTION 2024-01-26-7.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council approves the Dalhousie Agricultural Student’s Association referenda question:

***Do you support increasing the Dalhousie Agricultural Student Association (DASA) student fee levy from \$77.47 to \$80.00 for full time students and from \$38.20 to \$40.00 for part-time students and do you also support an annual increase of the DASA student fee levy for no more than 3.5% per year for the next three Society Review Committee (SRC) and Board of Directors? This question applies only to the Truro campuses and includes the fall, winter, and summer semesters.***

*Moved by the President*

*Seconded by the Vice-President Internal*

*MOTION 2024-01-26-7.3 Passes*

MOTION 2024-01-26-7.4

WHEREAS, Postdoctoral fellows (Postdocs) at Dalhousie University, numbering approximately 150, play a crucial role in conducting vital research on topic such as COVID-19, cancer, plastics in oceans, and battery-powered vehicles, contributing significantly to the academic community;

WHEREAS, Postdocs work closely with students, including those involved in undergrad experiential learning, honours projects, and advanced research projects, thereby enhancing the academic experience and imparting practical skills;

WHEREAS, On Wednesday, December 13, postdocs voted to reject the final offer from Dalhousie and have given their bargaining team a strong strike mandate, highlighting concerns about inadequate wage increases during a period of record inflation;

WHEREAS, A potential strike action could impact students directly, particularly those closely with postdocs, and indirectly, as faculty members maybe required to address the resulting workload;

WHEREAS, Improvements to the working conditions of postdocs would not only benefit the postdoctoral community but also positively impact many Ph.D. students for whom becoming a postdoc is a logical career progression;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council expresses its support for Postdoctoral fellows in their bargaining efforts and authorizes the writing of a letter to Dalhousie University, urging a fair and timely resolution to the ongoing negotiations.

*Moved by the Vice-President, Academic and External*

*Seconded by the Vice-President, Student Life*

*MOTION 2024-01-26-7.4 Passes*

## **8. Executive reports**

- 8.1 Report of the President
- 8.2 Report of the Vice-President, Internal
- 8.3 Report of the Vice-President, Finance & Operations
- 8.4 Report of the Vice-President, Academic & External
- 8.5 Report of the Vice-President, Student Life

## **9. Announcements**

9.1 The next meeting on the DSU Council will be held on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers (SUB).

9.2 DSU Winter General Elections Nominations open on January 29, 2024, at 8:00 AM to February 9 at 5:00 PM.

9.3 Queer Hangout on Feb 5<sup>th</sup> 6-9 PM, RM 303 in SUB!

9.4 Paint Night on Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 6-9, Council Chambers in SUB!

9.5 Drag Show on Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at the Grawood!

9.6 CSS Snowball Awards 2024 on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at the SUB!

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM by the Council Chair.