



Dalhousie Student Union Building | 6136 University Avenue  
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## Report of the President

Name: Mariam Knakriah

Reporting Period: August 1 – August 14, 2023

Council Date: August 14, 2023

### Internal Affairs

- Meeting with Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS) – August 1, 2023
  - Met with a couple of members from DAGS to discuss their smooth transition into the upcoming academic year.
- Government Outreach Discussions – August 2, 2023
  - Met with the VP AE, Omotayo, a few times over the past two weeks to discuss our priorities with the government for the upcoming academic year and the pertinent federal issues. We hope to meet a few MPs and individuals from the government, including the Deputy Prime Minister and Prime Minister, and help coordinate our outreach and engagements with the higher-ups.
  - We have been putting ongoing efforts to increase youth political engagement and connect with the provincial and federal governments, which has yet to happen at the DSU.
  - Omotayo and I are preparing to meet with the Minister's Regional Office very soon.
- Staff/Exec Meeting – August 4, 2023
  - I met with the staff to shed light on some governmental issues that I and the VP AE, Omotayo, are bringing to the MPs this summer. I was happy to see that all staff members participated and gave their opinions, lived experiences, and advice to both myself and Omotayo.
- ECMs – August 2, 9, and August 14, 2023
  - Dalhousie students should anticipate many changes and improvements as our last few ECMs have been very active and student-oriented.

- Ongoing DAL x DSU discussion and O-Week Steering Committee Meetings – August 2, 4, 9 and August 11, 2023
  - O-Week planning is ongoing.
  - Several O-Week events are now finalized.
  - Still meeting with Student Affairs and DAL Athletics to finalize the logistics of some O-Week events, including the Opening Ceremonies and Dalympics.
- One-on-Ones – Ongoing
  - I continue to have one-on-ones with most of the full-time staff, checking up on their physical and mental well-being, answering questions, and listening to concerns.
- Climate Strike Academic Amnesty – August 10, 2023
  - The VP AE, Omotayo and I have requested the SPGC for academic amnesty on September 15<sup>th</sup> for the annual climate strike.
- Bar Services – August 14, 2023
  - Discussions around improving our bar services.
- AGM Discussions – August 14, 2023
  - The VPFO, Henry, and I are working on finding effective strategies to reach a quorum at this year’s DSU AGM.

### University Affairs

- Transition and Engagement Operational Committee Meeting – August 1, 2023
  - Continued planning for fall 2023 to ensure a smooth transition for our students.
- Fall Campus Vibrancy Planning Meeting – August 2, 2023
  - The VPFO, Henry, and our Event Coordinator, Ana, attended a meeting with Student Affairs to discuss ideas regarding Homecoming this year.
- DSU Executive/Student Affairs Bi-weekly Meeting – August 3, 2023
  - Updated SA on O-Week-related topics.
  - Advocated to open a prayer room for Muslims on campus. Muslim Student Association (MSA) members have been struggling to find an adequate place for their Friday prayer for at least three years now. I am committed to solving this

issue as soon as possible and providing our Muslim Community with the rights and comfort they deserve on campus.

- Meeting with Human Rights and Equity Services (HRES) – August 3, 2023
  - Had my occasional meeting with Lyndsay, the Sexual Assault Advisor at DAL, ensuring the safety of our students and their well-being.
- Consent Week Planning discussions – August 10, 2023
  - Met with HRES to plan for Consent Week and discuss possibly having a self-defence workshop hosted by the DSU.
- Meeting with Rick Ezekiel – August 11, 2023
  - Bi-weekly engagement around student issues

#### External and Broader Community

- SNS Media Training – August 4, 2023
  - I was pleased to provide the Executive Team with intensive media training by Student Nova Scotia. I am committed to making sure that my team is ready to deal with any media-related situation that they might face in the future.

#### Goal Progress

- As summer draws to a close, I look back on my role as the President of the DSU with a sense of achievement. The dedication and work put into this role have been genuinely fulfilling. My objectives for this season are coming to fruition, and I'm excited to see how they will develop in the coming weeks. It is reassuring to note that my summer goal is close to being realized, and I eagerly anticipate its positive impact on our student body!

#### Upcoming Important Dates

- Consultation Sessions: CASA Strategic Plan – August 22 and 24, 2023



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## **Report of the Vice President, Internal**

Name: Tammy Maniou

Reporting Period: July 26, 2023 – August 8, 2023

Council Date: August 14, 2023

### Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

O-Week Steering Committee meeting, July 26, 9 am:

- a. Was updated on committee work progress.

Council prep, July 31, 1 pm:

- a. Met with the Policy and Governance Coordinator.
- b. Went through the July 31 Council meeting agenda and asked relevant questions about committee appointment procedures.

Council meeting, July 31, 5 pm:

- a. Attended the meeting and voted on motions.

Comms meeting, August 1, 1:30 pm:

- a. Discussed Street Squad lead hiring, website updates, O-Week promo, and newsletter items.

O-Week Steering Committee meeting, August 2, 9 am:

- a. Was updated on committee work progress.

Society meeting, August 2, 11:30 am:

- a. Met with the Society and the President, VPFO, GM, Financial Controller, Policy and Governance Coordinator, Societies and Programming Coordinator.
- b. Discussed next steps to help the Society ratify under the DSU while maintaining ongoing operations.

Executive Committee meeting, August 2, 2 pm:

- a. Took minutes.

- b. Discussed HR related matters.

O-Week Steering Committee meeting, August 4, 10 am:

- a. Was updated on committee work progress.

Staff/exec meeting, August 4, 12 pm:

- a. Monthly meetings for execs to catch up with staff.

Comms meeting, August 8, 1:30 pm:

- a. Discussed comms work updates.

### Society Review Committee Updates

Members were appointed to the committee on July 31. Email to schedule summer meetings is going out the week of August 7. Training/onboarding materials will be prepared the week of August 7.

### Offices Steering Committee Updates

Members were appointed to the committee on July 31. Email to schedule summer meetings is going out the week of August 7. Training/onboarding materials will be prepared the week of August 7.

### Student Accessibility Fund Committee Updates

Members were appointed to the committee on July 31. Email to schedule summer meetings is going out the week of August 7. Training/onboarding materials will be prepared the week of August 7.

### University Affairs and Committees

Residence Council check-in meeting, August 1, 11 am:

- a. Met with RLMs.
- b. See Goal Progress for details.

DSU x Student Affairs bi-weekly meeting, August 3, 9 am:

- a. Updated Student Affairs on my Residence Council work.

### External and Broader Community

SNS media training, August 4, 1 pm:

- a. Received training with the rest of the executive team on media relations.

### Goal Progress

On August 1 I met with RLMs to continue working on my Summer goal and clarify details on next steps and timelines.

- a. For the rest of August, I will be visiting Residences to digitize and research documents from Residence Councils accumulated throughout the years. I'm hoping to find Constitutions, financial documents, transition/end of year reports, and any other documents that could prove useful for Residence Council executives, ResLife, and the DSU in supporting the work of Residence Council executives. This work will pause in September and resume in October.
- b. Elections timeline for Residence Councils has been determined for early September. Next steps are to email Dal IT to request assistance with setting up a BrightSpace course for voting and submit a communications request to create promotional material.
- c. The Street Squad will be mobilized to assist me with tabling at O-Week and Residences to recruit nominees for elections. ResLife will be putting up promotional material and advertising internally.

### Upcoming Dates

Nothing to report.



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## **Report of the Vice President, Finance and Operations**

Name: Henry Amin

Reporting Period: July 31 – August 14, 2023

Council Date: August 14, 2023

### Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

- Attended DalFest Programming meetings.
- On July 31st, I conducted a Treasurer Training session for our DSU societies. The aim of this training is to equip our societies' treasurers with the necessary financial skills for optimal functioning and decision-making within their societies.
- As a member of the Executive Committee, I've participated in all our meetings, providing insights, and offering my assistance as required.
- In my capacity as VPFO, I have made it a priority to expeditiously respond to all emails, offering guidance and assistance to societies and members as per my role and within my jurisdiction.
- Attended our first Health and Safety meeting and discussed maintaining health and safety procedures within our organization.
- I've attended various staff and committee meetings, including Orientation Week Committee meetings, discussions with our food services provider, and staff meetings, to name a few.
- Attended a budget proposal meeting to work on O-Week and DalFest budget proposals.
- Conducted the first ISAAC MACDONALD MEMORIAL BURSARY FOR STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA meeting and discussed further steps for our upcoming meeting.

- Together with the DSU President and Events Commissioner, we met with Glow Parties to discuss the products we plan to rent for our O-Week events. Our aim is to make this year's O-Week events as engaging and memorable as possible for our students.
- Attended several internal meetings to discuss our relationship with our food services provider.
- Also attended meetings with our food services provider to discuss our relationship with them.
- Attended a meeting with DAGS.
- Attended an Executives Media Training.
- Attended a meeting with our investment management bank.

#### Budget and Finance Committee Updates

- First Committee meeting will take place on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

#### Grants and Sponsorship Committee Updates

- First Committee meeting will take place on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### International Student Emergency Bursary Committee Updates

- Conducted the first meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We thoroughly reviewed and approved applications.
- Second Committee meeting will take place on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### University Affairs and Committees

- a) Together with our DSU President and our Events Commissioner, I have attended a Quad Booking Inquiries meeting with the university to inquire about Quad bookings for O-Week.
- b) Together with our DSU President, I have attended two T & E Operational Committee Meetings to discuss university initiatives during O-Week.



- c) Together with our DSU President and our Events Commissioner, I have attended a Fall Campus Vibrancy Planning meeting with the university to discuss Homecoming initiatives and our DalFest programming.
- d) Together with our DSU President and our Events Commissioner, and the rest of the executive team, I have attended an Opening Ceremonies meeting to discuss the logistics and schedule for the Opening Ceremonies event during O-Week.
- e) Together with our DSU President and our Events Commissioner, I have attended a meeting with Dalhousie Athletics to discuss collaboration efforts on several O-Week events.

#### External and Broader Community

- a) Together with our DSU President and our Events Commissioner, I have attended a meeting with Bunni Lapin to discuss potential collaboration on one of our O-Week events.

#### Goal Progress

##### **a) Summer Semester Goal: Restructuring the Dalhousie Student Union**

During the summer semester, my primary goal was the initiation and implementation of a substantial restructuring of the Dalhousie Student Union. In pursuit of this goal, I established and chaired a dedicated steering committee tasked with designing a new, more efficient internal structure. This new structure saw the creation of a single general manager role in place of the previously existing two director positions, a move designed to streamline leadership and improve administrative efficiency. Additionally, we proposed the role of a research and outreach coordinator to improve our connections both within our student body and our broader community and to better support DSU executives. After crafting detailed job descriptions, we set a hiring timeline for these new roles and are currently in the final stages of hiring the general manager, with the process for the research and outreach coordinator soon to commence.

##### **b) Fall Semester Goal: Policy and By-Law Updates**

In the upcoming fall semester, my primary focus will be on updating the various policies and by-laws that fall within my portfolio. Many of these policies have become outdated, and it's crucial that they are revised to reflect the current needs and realities of our student union. In addition to updating these policies, I also plan to provide recommendations for amendments to by-laws relevant to my portfolio. This process will involve thorough consultations with all relevant parties to ensure that any proposed changes adequately represent the union's interests and continue to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.

**c) Winter Semester Goal: Under Evaluation**

As for the winter semester, I am still in the process of evaluating and setting my primary goal. My commitment to maintaining an open line of communication with all constituents will play a significant role in deciding this goal. I intend to seek their input to ensure that my goal aligns with their needs and aspirations. Further updates on this will be provided in due course.

Upcoming Dates

- a) A key upcoming event is the Treasurer Training scheduled for August 31st.



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## **Report of the Vice President, Academic and External**

Name: Omotayo Bankole

Reporting Period: August 1-14

Council Date: August 14

### Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

Executive Council Meetings:

- a. August 4th: Attended ECM meetings.

O-Week Committee Meetings:

- a. August 4<sup>th</sup>: Attended O-week steering committee meetings.
- b. August 2<sup>nd</sup>: O-week meeting.

Internal Affairs

- a. International Students Emergency Bursary committee appointee welcome and orientation
- b. SSCM application review with DSU manager and President.
- c. DSU outreach meeting with DSU president regarding union expectations of federal government.
- d. Staff/Executive meeting
- e. Executive's media training

### External Committee Updates

- a. DSU Executive/Student Affairs
- b. Senate and Senate Standing committee appointee listing.

### University Affairs and Committees

- a. Program Impact and Evaluation Standing committee appointee listing.

- b. Email communication with John Blake (graduate coordinator of Industrial Engineering program) regarding international student fees issue.
- c. Correspondence with student representative regarding M.Eng program issues.

#### External and Broader Community

- a. August 4th: Communication with Marc Guadet regarding logistical/execution issues of a self-defence seminar on campus.

#### Goal Progress

The present strategy involves ramping up advocacy initiatives as impending fee deadlines draw near. Creating strategy aimed to synergize the expectations of both the federal government and provincial governments, fostering enhanced collaboration between the union and governmental bodies.

#### Upcoming Dates

August 9<sup>th</sup> - O-week opening ceremonies preparations meeting.

August 9<sup>th</sup> - Student/Government Roundtable Discussion with DSU President.

August 9<sup>th</sup> - ISEBC Meeting.