DSU Council Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, May 7, 2020; 6:00 PM

Location: Held virtually, using Microsoft Teams. Members interested in attending can email dsuchair@dal.ca.

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.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Ratification of Chair and Secretary

MOTION 3.1

WHEREAS the incoming DSU Council Chair has not completed training and will be appointed at the meeting of Council on May 21 and should therefore be considered “absent” for all intents and purposes; and

WHEREAS the Union Rules and Procedures Policy 11.3 states that “In the event of the absence of the Chair of Council, a member of the Executive shall act as Chair of the meeting for the sole purpose of allowing Council, by a two-thirds vote, to appoint an acting Chair,” therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Grant MacNeil preside over the present session of DSU Council.

MOTION 3.2

WHEREAS the incoming DSU Recording Secretary has not completed training and will be appointed at the meeting of Council on May 21 and should therefore be considered “absent” for all intents and purposes; and

WHEREAS the Union Rules and Procedures Policy 11.4 states that “In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Council may appoint any person as temporary recording secretary, provided that any member of Council so appointed shall not receive an honorarium for such services nor be denied their voting privileges,” therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Vice President, Internal act as secretary for the present session of DSU Council.
4. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION 4.1

Be It Resolved That the agenda for this meeting of Council be adopted as circulated.

5. Communications Received

6. Presentations

6.1 South House Presentation

Presented by: Frank Heimpel and Francesca Ekwuyasi

6.2 Report on Recent Online Disclosure of Sexual Violence

Presented by: President

Related Documents: *May 5, 2020: DSU Update on Recent Online Disclosure of Sexual Violence*

7. New Business

MOTION 7.1; Moved by the President

WHEREAS the Judicial Board has not yet been appointed for the 2020-2021 year but will be appointed at the meeting of Council on May 21; and

WHEREAS the Judicial Board reports to Council and Council has greater decision-making power; and

WHEREAS serious allegations of sexual violence have been made online about a member of the DSU Executive; and

WHEREAS the Judicial Board Policy enables the Judicial Board to take the non-disciplinary action to temporarily suspend an individual respondent for a period of up to one week, should they find potential for continued serious harm to the organization or another individual pending the results of inquiry; and

WHEREAS the DSU is committed, as per the Equity Policy, to creating equitable and inclusive environments free from harassment and discrimination; and

WHEREAS the DSU recognizes that sexualized violence and rape culture affect people profoundly and differently, and believes that all students have a right to safer campuses; and

WHEREAS the DSU has received feedback from many members, in particular women and non-binary students and others who may experience higher rates of gender-based violence, calling for the DSU to follow survivor-centric principles;

THEREFORE:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Jad Ghiz, current Vice President, Student Life, be suspended with pay, effective immediately, for a period of one week as a non-disciplinary action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT at the end of one (1) week, on May 14, 2020, this suspension may be renewed for an additional period of up to one (1) week by a special resolution passed by the Executive Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT if said suspension is renewed, this decision will be immediately communicated to Councillors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this non-disciplinary suspension be carried out in order to allow for any potential investigative proceedings to be carried out.

MOTION 7.2; Moved by the Vice-President, Internal

WHEREAS the DSU distributes bursaries from the Student Accessibility Fund through the Student Accessibility Fund Committee, and these bursaries have been particularly important over the past few weeks in supporting students whose access needs have been exacerbated by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS in some cases the financial need described in bursary applications is urgent and a gap in the distribution of bursaries from this fund would negatively impact students with disabilities; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the term of the 2019-20 Student Accessibility Fund Committee be extended until May 21, 2020, at which point the members of the Committee for the 2020-2021 year shall be appointed.

8. Notice of Motion

9. Announcements

The next meeting of Council will be held on May 21, 2020 at 6:00pm, using Microsoft Teams

Appointments to the following Union committees will be made at the next meeting of Council:

- Student Accessibility Fund Committee
- Judicial Board
- Society Review Committee
- Offices Steering Committee
- Budget and Finance Committee
- Grants and Sponsorship Committee

10. Adjournment