

## **Roll Call**

Matt – first year rep  
Anthony – law rep (Feed Nova Scotia food drive)  
James – HAHP rep  
Els – DUES rep  
Ishika – international student representative DISA  
Anthony – Black students rep  
Pat – DAGS rep  
Brett – DAGS rep  
Kat – Member at Large  
Alex – Senate rep  
JD – BOGS rep  
Laura – Women’s rep  
Michelle – Aboriginal students’ rep  
Sam – DSS rep  
Francis – DSS rep  
Alex – Commerce rep  
Tara – medical school rep  
Taylor – DASSS (medieval studies minor)  
Cooked vegetables against the province food act?  
Katlynn – DASSS  
Hima – BOGS rep  
Josh – VPFO  
Beale – VPAE  
Ali – Chair  
Danny – VPSL  
Emma –  
Becca – Senate rep

Beale – document to be handed around that will be given to the Liberal government

## **Acceptance of the Agenda**

Josh motion to move the budget to the beginning of the meeting  
Beale – move 5b to 4d  
Danny – appoints two counselors to Impact Award Selection Committee  
Anthony – point of information, can anyone in attendance of executive available to talk about elections committee  
Josh – as far as I know there is nothing new from the elections committee but we can add a discussion item if you want to  
Katlynn motions to accept  
Josh seconds  
Motion passes unanimously

## **Acceptance of the Previous Meeting Minutes**

Ali – did not get that out to people

## **Appointments**

Impact Awards, on committee policy it is referred to as the Honor awards, since referred to as Impact awards. Happens around March. Multiple different awards. Nominations for members to sit on the selections committee.

Hima – it was fun because you got to know what basis they are selected on. Amazing to know what is going on with student groups.

Nominations

Alex nominates himself.

Matt nominates himself.

Danny nominates Laura. Laura accepts the nomination.

Unofficial alternatives.

Two alternative councilors now.

James nominates himself as an alternative.

Beale – point of order nominate the official ones

Matt – withdraws from official, nominates for alternative

Alex (senate) – nominates Kat Stein for official position

Taylor – motion to have a hand vote with eyes closed

Josh seconds

Ali – nominees, each comes in and speaks for 30 seconds, 60 second question period

Alex – I am Alex, Commerce rep, major is Managing People and Organizations. People person. On the ERC. Interviews. I enjoy working with people finding their qualities. I know Danny has worked really hard with the Impact Awards in the past. I want to work with Danny, who works really hard at them.

Laura – I don't have much to say, I would love to be on the committee and find out all the good stuff that is going on on campus and give recognition to those deserving. Excited to learn more and do work on this committee.

Pat – what distinguishes you from the other candidates?

Laura – I don't know the other candidates that well, I'm not sure but I know that I would be enthusiastic, with my background in the south House I would identify with gender issues and social issues.

Kat – I think I engage with a bunch of different stuff on campus, O-Week, Loaded Ladle as a member at large it is an all encompassing position, get to know a lot of other students on campus and do my position better. I would just love to get engaged with students this way.

Katlynn motions to go in camera.

Josh seconds.

Danny motions to go out of camera.  
Hima seconds.

Alex and Laura voted in.  
James nominates Kat.  
Kat accepts the nomination.  
James withdraws.  
Current nominees are Katerina Stein and Matt.  
In by acclamation.

### **Budget Approval**

Josh: budget was originally passed with the exception that the confusion around investments be cleared up. If anyone has any questions about that feel free to ask me now or later.

Summer fees don't actually reflect the fee increase.

-Get slideshow from Josh

A new line was created in advocacy funds, originally under Beale's campaign budget, CASA funding

Anthony – can we see a breakdown of the fees

Summer fees will be higher because of the referendum last year.

Josh – I don't know the referendum question, but I believe it was created because of a future fall.

Laura – change Women's Centre to South House

Josh – leave that for now, but if you want to come to accounting department we can through the steps to get that changed

Josh – vote on to pass this as our budget for the year. When the budget is brought forward in February, I revise it again before Christmas and then is presented to council.

Anthony – what was been changed since the budget was proposed?

Josh – revenues are down but student fees were higher than expected. DSUSO changed departments.

Taylor – is there any significant finance changes given that DSUSO is no longer an office?

Josh – no.

Ali – motion to accept the budget?

Katlynn motions to accept the budget.

Alex seconds.

Josh – recommendation coming from the Board.  
Essentially we divided the investments between health plan and other DSU investments.  
No interest being shown. Capital gains are put into investments within that portfolio.

Emma – what are we invested in?

Josh – I can get you a breakdown. I just don't have that off the top of my head.

Amendment passes.  
BIRT budget.  
Motion passes.

### **Old Business**

#### *Decision - Student Assistance*

Ali – item a, student assistance

Beale: addressed last council meeting, people just wanted time to review it.  
Ishika – friendly amendment to add “concerns the Dalhousie students”  
Conditional applicable to what is useful for Dalhousie students.  
Beale: what we are voting on right now we are making the judgment on whether or not it is good for Dal students, just seems redundant.

Anthony: can you Coles notes summary this topic again  
Beale – essence of the paper, recommendations to the government, take graduate retention rebate and put it into grants for students currently in school

Ali – temperature check about how people feel about making an amendment to the motion.

Ishika – if we can come back to it. It's just that if we endorse something. Just more methodology.

Tara – just this paper, not everything StudentsNS says.

Motion to accept the BIRT.  
Motion passes unanimously.

Beale motions to move 4 d) to 4 b)  
Motion passes unanimously.

#### *Advocacy Review Report*

Beale motions to go in camera.  
Katlynn motions to go in camera  
Josh motions to move out of camera.  
Katlynn seconds the motion.

### *Executive Reform Discussion*

Danny – last council meeting I wasn't here, heard there was a good discussion. The option to table the discussion to later is okay.

Anthony – when will the proposed changes be put to a vote?

Josh – there is no timeline, nothing is concrete or set in stone, it's a continuous open discussion, entirely still just looking for feedback

Danny – would like a more solid proposal submitted by the next meeting

Ali – five minute moderated caucus, 30 second speaking time

Taylor – firstly, I think it is important that the execs or someone look at the history of the positions, especially why VPAAE was merged together 8 years ago. Bringing up Beth's point, let's say you guys present a formal document...is this something that can actually get done by the election in the winter? Including constitutional amendments?

Alex – echo what Taylor said. Biggest question is surrounding the merging of VPAAE. Exec reform 10 years ago. I don't think the executive have been doing a horrible job and am wondering why do we need to hire this person versus not hiring this person.

Danny – I wonder if council would appreciate having reports specifically from each of the executives, such as a report outlining the efficiencies of each position.

Alex – we would like to see that.

Matt (Josh's speaking rights) – as a student, it would be great to have something to vote on in something like an AGM would be, current portfolios point by point current expectations are of the executive (current vs. proposed changes).

Alex – those are in the constitution

Matt – not in the detailed sense. What are the actual duties? Somebody has the duty of managing TigerBooks. That is in someone's portfolio to do. Would be ridiculous in constitutional amendments to change.

Alex – Do you guys have some unbiased member consulting with this? Someone off of executive, or outside of council perhaps?

Taylor – is Craig involved? Or is he biased?

Danny – Craig is the GM, and is on the conversations. VPAAE question to him. External consultant has been discussed.

Beale motions to extend by five minutes.  
Danny seconds.

Becca- I understand where you are coming from with the unbiased thing. The most beneficial inputs would come from the people who are currently in those positions as they can see themselves

Katlynn - Consultation research in other student unions, timeline information for the AGM and for students who want to run for these positions

Beale – we do need to seek other opinions, research has come from us being at other schools for consultations. Curious on everyone’s thoughts on timelines.

Josh – timeline has been discussion has been in contention with executive. We can mandate that things have to occur next year. I do think we definitely need to do our due diligence and make sure this is done right.

Katlynn – I definitely think that having this implemented not for this election but next would be better. We already had enough issues last year with combining faculty elections to DSU elections.

Alex – support of reform I don’t think it will be a mess I think it will be a challenge I don’t think putting it off will change things. We can also reject reform

Josh – elaborate on my point, I think a reform is necessary for the future, we should have a plan for what we as council see for the union in twenty years. Need a vision for the reform before making a vision from the reform.

Danny – this has been awesome for us. I think a timeline is very important and we will be working as hard as we can, need something to discuss and sink or teeth into.

#### *Discussion - SUB Renovations*

Danny – we don’t have to go into this in great deal, but what we have been going over in the past couple weeks. Meeting with levied societies. Combined levy society meeting with ALL levied societies. Folks specific needs are. Gain insight and feedback, appreciate the time that has been made.

Ali – if anyone after the meeting does want to talk about it, email or speak to Danny, conversation is very open on this issue.

Beale – at the end of this meeting we will be noticing a motion where people will make a decision on the next agenda, make small decisions afterwards.

#### **New Business**

*Decision – Divestment Motion*

Thank you all for all your time, I know these meetings are very long so we are grateful. My name is Steven and this is Emma and we are Divest Dalhousie, Environment Justice. 411 million plus pool of money the university uses to invest in a number of different industries. The fossil fuel industry is included. There is no ethical regulations but what is legal through Canadian law. A group of 200 extractive industries with the largest fossil fuel contributors.

Want to know what we are invested in (published)

Vice President Finance said that he had no idea what the university was unaware.

Immediate freezing of these investments

Divesting

Over a period of 4 years.

Our group has already had a meeting in person with Dr. Florizone and members of the Board of Governors and the President's advisory council on sustainability. We claim this to be an ethical issue. We think it is unethical to be investing in fossil fuels. A rise in average global temperatures of 2 degrees would be catastrophic. I would like to point out that it is a low economic risk on these investments. This is why we are proposing a phasing out over four years. This idea isn't just from us, we are from 300+ universities across North America.

We would be the first Canadian post secondary institution to and the largest one to. Endowment fund. Seattle and San Francisco was over 4 billion. Endorsements for our campaign from a number of alumni, faculty and community leaders. Strong for the DSU to show support for. We are looking to meet with him in December for the beginning. Initial support at the DSU level.

Katlynn – a question about how it was received by upper administration and their feedback

Steven – four of us met with Dr. Florizone and four members of the presidents advisory committee on sustainability, pretty amicable. Difficult thing. It was “this is difficult give us more information”

Since that initial meeting, this group requested more information we have put together a very in-depth information package that we have submitted to Dr. Florizone, our next meeting will be discussing that package in further detail

JD: “ESG criteria is on the BOGS meeting, worth noting that the Dalhousie Investment Committee is taking this seriously. With things like endowment funds they have a

regulation with minimizing risk and increasing return. Please explain how divestment makes sense in that regard.

I think it has multiple stages of approaches to that. You could set up a mandatory clause saying that there should be a specific rate of return. Something that can be done hopefully easily.

With the regards to fossil fuel, it is very hard to be in the energy sector without investing in fossil fuels. Be getting out almost in total from energy, there are studies 3 one hundredths of a percent in terms of return

Emma: I want to draw ties with the library issue, cutting library hours and I think investing in fossil fuels leads into ethical issues in the same fashion.

Anthony – thank you guys for coming in and making this. We need some proposed alternatives for the investment. Do you guys have suggestions for what else we could invest in.

The alternatives to “reinvesting” this is a frontier almost, the number of options that are coming available, local investment, community investment, exchange traded funds, very specific locations in very specific sectors, its just a matter of us compiling that

With traditional energy we actually see declining ROI in these industries where renewables can greatly exceed. Within the institution itself, opportunity for innovation at the administrative level, but something to bring into the classrooms and a problem for the school to solve within itself.

Els – you are not trying to make an ethical change to investments? Or you want to divest from fossil fuels to set a precedent? What about the other unethical investments?

That’s a really good question – a lot of unethical things we could be divesting from. Have to start somewhere, international campaign across Europe, riding that wave of momentum, discussing other issues of unethical investment.

I’ll add that with something like climate change, and countries have signed up and we are way above that.

Pat – thanks for coming in as well, we appreciate you coming. As little I know about the issue, so thank you for working on this on our behalf from what I’ve read I’m excited about.

Katlynn – to echo what Pat has said, to echo I think it is absolutely fantastic that we are looking to set a precedent for other universities, great place to start. Hot topic. Couldn’t be better timing.

Hima – are any of the faculty in engineering on board?

Steven: we have already been gathering for two weeks. Two engineering profs, one signed officially and one has given support.

A month or two ago during 100 days a few of us were on the engineering campus as well, Dean of Engineering was really open and receptive to this as well.

JD: transparency around the endowment funds and investments, sent to investment managers, we don't actually know. Having that from a transparency perspective is also very valuable.

Becca – think its great you came to present this to us. Good place to seek endorsement. DSU has an ethical investment policy.

Beale – you know your shit. Call the question.

Katlynn motion accept.

Becca seconds.

Motion passes.

Josh abstains.

Hima abstains.

Tuesday at 3pm BOGS meeting. November 26.

Unsure of proper protocol.

Chair rules is in order.

#### *Discussion – Fall Reading Week*

Alex (senate) – quickly reflect on the greatness of the study week, how much better would a full week be? It might be complex it may not be to make it seem soon. Approved the dates for next year. What are people's ideas for a fall reading week?

Katlynn – how will a full fall reading week affect when exams occur?

Alex – its pretty much open for discussion, a proposal I might have, we would have to only add three more school days. We could start earlier, etc.

Els – I am more the fall reading week. Everyone groaned. Engineers are already worried about how jam packed their schedule would be. What would happen to the engineering degree?

Alex – can't have less teaching days, we would reallocate the teaching days.

Matt (with Beale's speaking rights) – computer science, lectures are important because of projected based, as much as I would like to sleep in I would prefer to keep the continuous days

Laura – how do you like winter reading week? You are not losing any lecture hours, you are gaining study hours.

Sam – I agree, because of a four day weekend its pretty much a break and a lot of people would appreciate things so they can use that week or potentially go home. For a lot of classes that have labs or tutorials, when the first two days are cancelled all of the tutorials and labs are cancelled.

JD – adding two days to the beginning of the semester, a lot of students start on the Thursday anyway, it would be a very easy way of doing it

Taylor – how easy is it to change this?

Alex – I don't know how easy it is, I might find out how difficult this is, just trying to chat with some people to see how they feel.

Danny – if this was to go ahead would we have to start earlier in September or could it be made up at the end?

Alex – its completely in discussion still.

### **Executive Reports**

Beale – forgot to add something to the agenda I said I would. Senate reform, I sent that out late, it was supposed to be part of a general Senate constitutional review. If this is something council wants to have it ready. The MLA issue briefings I will be collecting those. This is our strategy and its not something I want to make super public. Advocacy review is confidential.

Danny – report was lacking, big things happening around intramurals and advocating to increase capacity for intramurals. Elliot Brood this Saturday at the Grawood.

Taylor – the website is still really not maintained, but I think the union should have an up to date website, it should be a priority or if you are getting a new one, since it was already redesigned last year for a lot of money.

Josh – please send us an email calling us out.

Ali – spoke with Ramz two days ago, volunteered to start putting up minutes.

### **Notices of Motion**

Josh- motion to resign the renovations project and continuing with them instead of passing off to some other firm.

**Announcements**

Henri (Taylor's speaking rights) – on the 28, event to welcome back the government to reduce tuition fees. This coming Thursday we are going to be meeting here in the SUB.

Ishika – as an update this Saturday we have the Brazilian themed party, free cover 19+ Grad house. DAGS/DISA event

Hima motions to adjourned.  
Seconded by council