DSU President

Report for the period January 13, 2020 – January 24, 2020

DSU Day-to-Day Operations
- Financial duties required as a signing authority
- Monitor and catch-up on emails
- Exec. check-ins

DSU Internal Meetings
- Staff meetings
- Social Justice Team meeting
- Accounting Department Check-in
- Council
- Exec. Committee meeting
- Director of Operations check-in
- Full-time staff check-ins

Dalhousie Governance Meetings
- Senate: DSU Presentation to Senate
  - Our Senate Caucus Chair and I presented the DSU and Senate Caucus priorities to senate. Our presentation touched on the New Deal – Senate reforms we will be presenting throughout the semester to the various senate sub-committees. The New Deal touches on the student experience, making right on historical injustices and the triad between Dalhousie Faculty, staff and students. We also spoke on the importance of an anti-oppressive framework in the work senate tackles to ensure our most marginalized members are getting the support they need to succeed. An anti-oppressive framework requires an understanding of the power, privilege and oppression at play across systemic, institutional, interpersonal and internalized spheres and so addressing this is a lot more complex than just checking off a diversity quota. By uplifting the most marginalized supports and structures are created that reverberates to raising the bar for everyone. Furthermore, structural competency is another key aspect of an anti-oppressive framework that understands our institutions are made up of buildings, policies and people. It is important that we create and foster structures that can be fully and meaningfully accessed by all the folks who enter our doors. Our presentation was very well received by senate and we look forward to working with folks to push the envelope towards the equitable future.

- Student Affairs Bi-Weekly Luncheons
  - We invited members of the Dalhousie Muslim Student Association to attend this lunch and engage directly with the Student Affairs team. It is important to note the relationship
between the DSU and Dalhousie administration. Although the DSU can advocate for things like culturally competent mental health services and more study spaces, but unfortunately, only the University has the power to make these changes. This is why a united student body presenting clear and innovate solutions to the University on issues students are facing, we can work with the university to implement them in the best way to achieve substantial change on out campus.

**DSU Internal Operations**
- Director Operations Exit Interview
  - Conducted the exit interview, taking on the various loose ends and on-going projects as well as facilitated the hand-off of work-related items and keys
- Interim Director of Operations
  - I have taken on a majority of the workload required of the Director of Operations
  - Oversee departments under the purview of the Operations Director
  - Facilitate process of getting cheque for Grawood event DJ
- Director of Operations Hiring Committee Chair
  - Reviewing applications on a rolling basis
  - Facilitate the hiring process

**DSU Services Support**
- Grawood Hiring Committee Chair
  - I chaired the Grawood hiring committee. This entailed coordinating all steps of the hiring committee from start to finish. I was responsible for reviewing applications, contacting candidates we would want to interview, preparing the interview questions and candidate scoring sheet, scheduling the interviews to meet the committee and candidates time constraints, keep track of the candidates documentation, support the committee in selecting the successful candidates, let the unsuccessful candidates know the position has been filled and facilitate the onboarding process of the selected candidates.
- Grawood Assistant Management Team Weekly Meetings
  - Meet weekly with Grawood assistant managers to go over Grawood operations and fulfill a supervisory support role
- Food Bank Donation Delivery
  - Whenever requested, I take the Tiger Patrol to pick-up Food Bank donations and drive them back to the SUB.

**Student Empowerment**
- Centering the Margins: BIPOC Programming
  - Supporting in the development of the Racial Justice Symposium
  - Engaging with BIPOC students to brainstorm and design programming they’d like to see on campus, at the DSU and in the Grawood
SUB Lobby Tabling
- This week I began tabling weekly in the SUB lobby. I spent some time prepping the material we’d have at the table to make it as inviting to students as possible. This is an opportunity for me to consult and engage with students and really get to know what’s up with our student body. As part of our mental health initiatives, Araari the SUB Cat tables with me (when she isn’t being fussy) and students get the opportunity to cuddle with a lil’ furry friend in-between classes.

Teatime with the DSU Pres
- An initiative that came out of discussions with the Presidential committee, teatime with the DSU Pres is an (almost) weekly SnapChat series where I answer questions posed to me by students and the presidential committee as well as update folks on what’s been going on or coming soon at the DSU. Follow @dalStudentUnion on Snapchat to stay in the loop with all the tea!

Personal Social Media
- Students often reach out directly on my personal social media to engage about various DSU things. I’ve been doing my best to set clear work/life boundaries for myself while also answering students’ legitimate questions. Unfortunately, students do troll me and say some not great things, but I just ignore the bullying cause it’s 2020 – ain’t nobody got time for bullies and it’s definitely not a cute look.

Student Engagement
- Presidential Committee
  - The DSU Presidential committee meets every Monday either 4-6pm or 5-7pm (depending in senate is taking place that week). The committee is open to all and folks are encouraged to drop-in to talk about what’s going on in the DSU, get feedback on passion projects students want to start and support the great work our students are already doing. The weekly presidential committee acts as one set of my office hours.

On-Going Projects
- Dal AfroFest Grawood Logistics & Support
  - Attended the first meeting for the planning of this event with the DSU Council Black Students’ Representative and the Equity & Accessibility Office
  - Coordinating logistics between the Grawood staff and event organizers
- Melanin Monologues Project Support
  - A few students popped by my office and asked for help executing an idea they had to connect Black students across campus. I was able to connect them with resources, provide institutional knowledge and connect them with other student groups who would be interested in collaborating on the project. I am now working with the organizers to support in the organizing of Melanin Monologues and I’m super excited to see this event happen!