Council Meeting
October 23, 2019 - 6:00pm – Council Chambers, Student Union Building

Call to order at 6:00 pm by Chair

1. Roll Call

Councillors Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aisha Abawajy (she/her)</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hasan Sinan (he/him)</td>
<td>Vice President (Academic &amp; External Interim) &amp; FASS Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isa Wright (she/her or they/them)</td>
<td>Vice President (Finance and Operations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruby Coles (she/her)</td>
<td>Vice President (Student life)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calista Hills (she/her)</td>
<td>Vice President (Internal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatima Beydoun</td>
<td>Board of Governors Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole</td>
<td>acting as proxy Indigenous Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Claudia Castillo-Prentt</td>
<td>Black Students Community Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anas</td>
<td>acting as proxy for International Students Community Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Drake</td>
<td>LGTBQ Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Sandra Sunil (she/her)</td>
<td>Residence Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Lenka Wicha (she/her)</td>
<td>Faculty of Agriculture Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shivam Mahajan</td>
<td>Faculty of Computer Science Representative</td>
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<td>Ryan Callahan</td>
<td>Faculty of Dentistry Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julia Sarty</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fallen Matthew</td>
<td>Faculty of Graduate Students Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Yusuf (he/him)</td>
<td>Faculty of Health Professions Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meghan Faught</td>
<td>Faculty of Law Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ameir Yahia</td>
<td>Faculty of Management Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herman Stubeda</td>
<td>Faculty of Medicine Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>acting as proxy for Faculty of Science Representative</td>
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2. Land Acknowledgment

3. Adoption of the Agenda

   Motion 3.1
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.
   
   Mover: Faculty of Law Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Computer Science
   Motion Carries

   Motion 3.2
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the New Business section of the Agenda be moved to right below Communications Received.
   
   Mover: VP Academic and External  Seconder: Faculty of Management Representative
   (21-0)
   Motion Carries

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

   Motion 4.1
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the October 9th Minutes be accepted as circulated.

   Motion 4.2
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the October 9th Minutes be amended to change the name of the speaker in section 8.a.1) from Joshua to Ameir.
   
   Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Management Representative
   (21 – 0)
   Motion Carries
Motion 4.3
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the October 9th Minutes be amended to reflect a correction in spelling of the Black Students Community Representative’s Name.
Mover: Black Students Community Representative  Seconder: VP Academic and External 
(21 – 0)
Motion Carries

Motion 4.4
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the October 9th Minutes be accepted with the amendments.
(21-0)
Motion Carries

5. Communications Received
Faculty of Science Representative sends her regrets and Liam is acting as proxy
International Students Community Representative sends her regrets and Anas is acting as proxy
Indigenous Students Community Representative sends her regrets and Nicole is acting as proxy

6. New Business
   a. Computer Science Constituency Concerns

   MOTION 6.1

   WHEREAS Bylaw 7.7 states that council may request a financial report on the state of the Union or any Union-run business and;
   WHEREAS the Grawood and the T-Room have experienced closures and disruptions in services;
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT a financial report be provided to council within two weeks for the Grawood and the T-Room.

   Mover : Faculty of Agriculture Representative Seconder : LGBTQ Representative 
   (21 – 0)
   Motion Carries

   MOTION 6.2

   WHEREAS Dalhousie University has suspended the provision of liquor at the DSU and it is in the Councils duty to act in good faith of the Union and in the best interests of its members;

   BE IT RESOLVED THAT an ad hoc committee, the Internal Investigation Committee, be established to investigate, but not be limited to, the processes and steps in the lead up to the current situation and potential consequences of the suspensions of services.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the committee shall present a report on its findings from interviews with members affected by the situation, a Freedom of Information request put forth to Dalhousie University and a review of all internal documents and correspondence between the Student Union and the University. The committee shall comprise the Faculty of Health Professions Representative as Chair, two non-executive Councillors, a member-at-large from the Sexton campus, a member at large from the Studley campus and a member-at-large from the Carleton campus. A special request is put forth to the Faculty of Agriculture Representative to represent the Agriculture campus. The committee will be considered a closed committee and will present its final, complete written report and final written recommendations on the investigation to Council by the Council meeting on December 4th, 2019.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: President

Faculty of Engineering Rep asked about the reason behind the selection of December 4th for the presentation of the final report and recommendations.

Joshua – It would give enough time to have a thorough investigation into the situation.

Claudia wanted to have a discussion on the topic before proceeding to a vote. She inquired with Joshua about certain positions on the investigation committee.

Motion 6.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Motion 6.2 be amended so as to include two non-executive faculty level society councillors and two community representative councillors in the committee.

Mover: VP Finance and Operations  Seconder: LGBTQ Community Representative

Meghan – How would you select members of the committee?

Joshua – Through an interview process asking the candidates about their stance on the issues and if they could bring a neutrality to the position without pre-existing biases.

Calista – Requested a terms of reference type document be put forward before the next council meeting to know of what the process would look like.

Joshua – Due to the nature of the interviews, the internal documents can’t come forward as everyone will be signing NDA’s due to them being a private organisation.

Vote on Motion 6.3 - (21 – 0).

Motion Carries

Maddy Stinson (Bartender at Grawood) read out a letter on behalf of the Grawood Staff (Letter was distributed to the councillors as well during the meeting).

Roll Call Vote for Motion 6.2

VP Finance and Operations
VP Academic and External
President
Faculty of Law Representative
Faculty of Agriculture Representative
Faculty of Engineering Representative
Faculty of Dentistry Representative
Indigenous Students Community Representative
Black Students Community Representative
BOG Representative
Abstentions – Joshua (Faculty of Health Professions)
(21 – 0 – 1)
Motion Carries

President addresses issue brought forward by the Faculty of Computer Science Representative, the motion to address the issue in the agenda and also the letter put forward by Maddy.

President – All the documents and referencing have been posted on the website. They have been posted on social media. Finally, emails have been sent to councillors, which is the third mode of communication to students. DSU doesn’t have the University’s permission to send out emails to all students. Everything is listed on the website.
On October 16th, news release was published to the community and members.
Vice Provost, Student Affairs is the license administrator and it’s his job to do the governance piece from a senior management team.
On July 11th, the alcohol advisory committee met up and made the decision without student consultation to move the position of license designate to a university position unlike what the policy says.
During the summer, the DSU has been in compliance with all the policies and regulations outlined and the ask from the beginning was to comply with the alcohol policies.
Most part of the issue stems from no singular approval process being recommended to the committee and implemented. This was the first letter to the university.

No response or changes to the process was received. There was a lot of feedback from students and it reached a point where events were being approved very often. There is no concurrent procedure that has been followed on the university’s behalf.

Second letter was addressed to Teri (Interim President) expressing no response or change has been made to the process. The DSU would like to have a conversation about it and try to find a way to make the process work for students.

Final Letter to the Board of Governors was letting the university aware that the DSU is not part of the approval process and it has not been sustainable since the very beginning. As of July 11th, the transformation of responsibility was removed from the DSU when the License designation was removed and given to the university. The process and work should be done by the license designate as outlined in the policy and if there is any change to be made to the process, that should go to the advisory committee.
The response was a complete suspension of services on campus the next day which is an unnecessary escalation. No staff has broken any policies. No questions from the Alcohol and Gaming (NS department handling this) about the licensing. University made the choice to suspend alcohol across the board affecting Trivia Nights at the Grawood, Staff salaries, and staffs ability to work their jobs on campus.
There is a meeting with Ivan Joseph the next day. After submission was made by the university to suspend services, emails were sent to him but an auto response was received mentioning he won't be available until the day after the current council meeting and no information was given the DSU surrounding the issue after the suspension.

Shivam (FCS Representative) – The License designate position was created on May 22nd, was the University approval committee aware that this would be happening? What was the plan for having the license designate replaced? The policy doesn't state the license designate must be from DSU and only that it will be the general manager of the DSU, the position that was destroyed by the DSU.

Isa – During the restructuring, which was unanimously voted on by council, all of the alcohol related duties were included in the job description for the new director of operations position and this was immediately communicated to the university. As it was an HR related decision, for confidentiality reasons, it wasn't communicated with the alcohol committee prior to the date of the restructuring on June 9th. Legal opinion was sought on the policy and it legally interprets that the general manager’s duties in this case as per the policy would be transferred over to the director of operations. University has continued to threaten the autonomy as a Student union and continues to employ authority over DSU staff, making decisions that affect the DSU staff and students.

Shivam – Was the position not accepted by the University?
Isa – New position that was introduced was not recognized as the license designate even though legal opinion on the alcohol policy says that the director of operations should be recognized as the license designate.

Lenka – Where are the Universities response communications?
Isa – Can’t publish the replies because several of the documents say that it can only be distributed with the intended audience. Working to get communications which can be published.

Lenka – Who has been contacted about receiving the information?
Isa – Been communicating with Ivan Joseph, and once his auto replies were received, concerns have been directed to his staff person.

Liam (Faculty of Science Rep. Proxy) – Did the executives realise the consequences of such a ban may promote students smuggling alcohol into dorms?
President – The ban was not the executives’ decision and was an escalation on part of the University. Speaking of policy and residence, the university have a dry campus policy and that has been their attempt from several years and the university is trying to make the campus dry. There were no breaches to policies. Waiting for the university to answer all of the DSU's questions.

Julia – The restructuring vote did not include the entire council due to various reasons. On the engineering campus, when the societies want to make communications to the students, it can be made through a staff person on behalf of them. Wanted to know if such a thing can be done in this situation as well.
Aisha – Would like to talk to the administration at Dal and look into it further. Regarding the restructuring, council was inherited from the previous year’s executive. Hence, council didn’t have a lot of its positions open. Worked over the summer to contact the different societies and worked with Charity to get all the councillors in. It was harder to get the council running.

Meghan – When can an update be expected for the students after the meeting with Ivan and to be able to get a timeline showing when things will go back to normal.
Isa – A copy of the communication sent the previous day can be shared with council and in those communications, they have asked them to identify steps that can be taken to remove the ban. Will work to send an update to the council ASAP after the meeting the following day.

Shivam – The policy says that VP Student Life and President is on the Alcohol advisory committee. When was the last meeting they met with the alcohol advisory committee?  
Ruby – The last meeting that was called was on September 23rd and she was present then.

Shivam – What licensing policies have been introduced by the universities and what are the issues that staff faced due to it.  
Aisha – No policies, no documentation or new process given to the DSU. Extra steps were being constantly added to the process. Students said they had to fill up new forms and when the DSU sought clarification about it, they were told that it was always the process.

Shivam – What is the procedure to get reimbursements of the cost for the leftover alcohol that they have.  
Aisha – An email can be sent to her from the CS society. There are many ramifications left to unsee and would be willing to have a conversation about it.

Lenka – Is it possible that the new forms were just forms that used to be filled out by the person previously responsible for the license and now that someone else is responsible, those forms are the same forms but students aren’t aware of those forms being previously filled out?  
Isa – Evidence from several sources point out that the forms which were previously filled out by the license designate are different from the forms the new license designate is asking for.  
President – The DSU is looking forward to a clear transparent process.

Maddy – It can be agreed that alcohol policy is in place to prevent harm to students. Why would the DSU executive do whatever it took to save the life of students?  
Isa – It is a valid point that policy is in place to regulate alcohol consumption on campus in a way to make it safe for students. Since it is the official channel for regulating that, the DSU is dependent on the University to carry out the responsibility to regulate it and when they started to fail to regulate those processes, the DSU refused to have a part in processes which were becoming unsafe and unsustainable for students. This response was an unnecessary escalation by the university due to the DSU’s ask to create a clear process for societies and students to follow.

A person from the Gallery asked if the letter from Ivan Joseph can be read out since it conflicts with several things the…. And President have stated.  
Aisha – They are at a disagreement with the university, which is where the contradiction stems from. They are hoping to see if the meeting tomorrow can help find a way to get the suspension lifted and prioritise student safety moving forward in the process.

Motion 6.4

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the letter from Ivan Joseph be read aloud.

Mover: Faculty of Engineering Representative  
Seconder: Faculty of Dentistry Representative  
(10 – 10 – 1)

Chair decided to carry the motion forward.

Motion 6.5
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council take a recess until 7:30 PM.

Mover: President  Seconder: Faculty of Management Representative
(21 – 0 – 1)
Abstentions – Residence Students Community Representative
Motion Carries

Charity read the letter from Ivan Joseph after the recess.

Isa – Clarified that the letter to the BOG did not state that the DSU were not willing to follow the alcohol policy. The DSU has continually asked for intervention in the situation to restore the rules, guidelines and procedures established by the alcohol policy. Their statement is in direct contradiction of all the DSU communications with them.

Faiza (from the Gallery) – Executives shouldn’t be complaining about more work needing to be done in terms of extra forms or following actual policy as they are being paid for it. The new license designate is the manager of the university club which is a successful establishment. The license designate that the DSU tried to bring forward, worked at Kings and Kings allowed underage students to drink on their campus bar and it happens to be the only the only bar in Nova Scotia to allow underage students to enter the bar and drink. In the disagreement between the University and the DSU, she can see why the university is trying to ensure safety and make sure the DSU executives follow policy.

Isa – The DSU has sought legal opinion on the alcohol policy and it should legally be interpreted as it should still be a DSU employee who performs as a general manager like Jennifer Nowoselski did. It was part of the hiring process that the DSU hired someone with liquor designate experience and the Director of operations used to be license designate for the kings campus. Whether or not a wet-dry license is a harm reductive approach is up for debate but not in this debate. It is not a matter of underage students being allowed to drink in a bar. The Kings University Wardroom holds the only wet-dry license in the province where eighteen year olds are allowed to be on the premises where alcohol is served.

Gillian (from the Gallery) – At the previous meeting, the executives claimed that the problems between the DSU and the University had nothing to do with the restructuring. But Ivan Joseph in his email stated that the restructuring has significantly impacted how bar services have been delivered. Also they claimed that the DSU has not complied with policy. Does the executive, still stand by these statements?

Isa – The new positions allowed for more support and oversight of all of their services. The decision made by the alcohol advisory committee was a result of the restructuring. It was a direct attack on student union autonomy to not recognise the new staff as the license designate.

Julia – There was an issue with a live music event that was planned by the previous general manager and contracts were signed. A student had to pay for the event in the end. They were trying to contact Jennifer repeatedly and received no response for a reimbursement.

President – The DSU disagrees with the entire situation.

Liam (from the Gallery) – Takes issue with characterization of the behaviour of the liquor license designate. Finds the content and nature of the letter that is publicly published on the DSU’s website to be inappropriately put. This demeans the character of Miss Tate.

… (from the Gallery but not sure who she is) – Students want these letters to be made public, but at the same time when letters as such are made public, students have a problem with that as well.
President – This looks like a conflict between transparency and safety of persons and confidentiality. The letter being posted online was due to students wanting transparency. If students want some parts of it redacted or removed, that can be done if necessary.

Letter from the Gallery (read by Charity) – It seems as though the letter to the university advisory committee’s appendix, the DSU president is claiming that the process for licensing is outlined in the university alcohol policy, however the policy only outlines how the process is created. How is the appendix to this letter relevant when it is trying to outline a process for licensing based on a protocol for creating the processes?
Aisha- This is a great question for the committee that’s being addressed. Would like to thoroughly look into it. Stand behind the statements that were put out. All these concerns can be discussed in length in the investigation.

Rebecca (from the Gallery) – Earlier in the meeting, it was mentioned that the council had vacancies at the beginning of the year. Why in a time like that, would an initiation of a restructuring when the council hasn’t even been formalized.
Aisha – DSU has had councils in the past which has continued working without all of the councillors. Any questions about the restructuring can be addressed through an ad-hoc committee or discussion at another time as the discussion today is surrounded around the alcohol suspension.

Liam (proxy) – About the letter on the DSU website, there should be transparency but if it could damage someone’s reputation, that part of it could be redacted.

Liam (from the gallery) – About the staff at Grawood, they pay their rent with their wages and tips. Any effort from the DSU to compensate them or assist them to find a job at a similar rate?
Aisha – It was a key topic in terms of their conversations with Ivan Joseph and the University. Ask to the university in the conversation the following day would be to compensate the staff appropriately for the time they were unable to work due to the university’s decision.

Fallen – Why are students leaning more towards Ivan Joseph and the University’s statement as opposed to the DSU’s statement.
Julia – Disagrees with what Fallen says. The cause of the concern with the Grawood staff is because the staff at the Grawood and T-Room depend on it for their living.

Gillian (from the Gallery) - (read out a letter)
Aisha – Policies and procedures are limiting as they don’t always tell what to do. They have constantly contacted to the University for more information about when the ban will be lifted, what is being done about it and they haven’t been providing this information. Any questions, comments and ideas are welcome. Can come meet during office hours or set up a meeting.

A member from the gallery – About comments and posts online, what is being done to solve the rift between students?
Aisha – Holding a meeting as the current one where members are invited to the gallery and listening to what people have to say is one of the ways. Any suggestions, concerns about this will be dealt by the investigation committee. Any suggestions about ways to deal with this rift are welcome in a conversation with her.

Joshua (Faculty of Health Professions) – About the investigation, they are moving forward with something tangible that people can keep up to date with by emailing him. Purpose of the investigation is to help deal with the rift.
Speaker from the gallery – About the ad-hoc committee report, will the final report be made available to students?
Joshua – They are discussing motions and there are some documents which are confidential. Some parts will be redacted and some won’t. Some of the information will be made available to students.

Julia (Engineering Rep) – The Sexton Coordinator position is still unfilled.

Gillian (from the gallery) – Asked to make sure that in the investigation, there are procedures set up so that if such an issue comes up again, there is a way to deal with it.

Maddy (from the gallery) – Support is intimidating for staff on campus.

7. Appointments

Motion 7.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Ankit Bajaj be appointed as the Chief Returning Officer for the 2019-2020 academic year.

_Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: Black Students Community Representative_
(21 – 0)
Motion carries

Motion 7.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dong Ngo and Claire Weir-Parkin be appointed to the Elections Committee for the 2019-2020 academic year.

_Mover: Faculty of Health Professions  Seconder: Black Students Community Representative_
(21 – 0)
Motion Carries

8. Presentations
   a. World University Service of Canada—Student Refugee Program.

9. Committee Reports

10. Old Business

11. Executive Reports
   a. President
   b. Vice-President (Internal)
   c. Vice-President (Financial and Operations)
   d. Vice-President (Academic and External)
   e. Vice-President (Student Life)
12. Councillor Reports
   a. Faculty of Law Representative
   b. Faculty of Health Professions
      Question from the gallery – Timeline related to election committee hiring?
      Joshua – There is a spot available and asked if someone would like to be on it.
   c. Residence Students Committee

13. Notices of Motion

14. Announcements
   Next meeting will be at the agricultural campus and a plan to get there is in the works.
   Meghan - for the BRPC, they are not going to propose any substantial amendment to the bylaw because they have a very tight timeline.

15. Adjournment
   Motion 15.1
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council adjourns at 8:56 PM.
   **Mover:** LGBTQ Students Community Representative  **Seconder:** Faculty of Computer Science Representative
   (21 – 0)
   Motion Carries

Meeting adjourned at: 8:56 pm
Minutes submitted by Secretary: Kranthi Kiran Jalakam