DSU President
Report for the period May 23, 2019 – June 19, 2019

DSU Internal Meetings
- Comms check-in
- Policy & governance check-in
- Staff check-in
- GM check-ins
- Staff meetings

Dalhousie Governance Meetings & Admin Relations
- Senate
  - Attended Senate meeting
  - Met with the Chair of Senate to discuss student goals for the senate year, what the preview of senate is and what is upcoming in senate this year.
- Diversification Forum Student Reps Support
  - An event hosted by a Senate ad-hoc committee for the purpose of planning the Curricula Diversification Forum with the aim to support professors diversify the content of their curriculum to better represent the wide area of expertise academia has to offer as well as bring in knowledge and ways of knowing that have been systemically kept out of academic and university spaces.
  - Worked to support the two DSU committee reps as they navigated the committee.
- Attended Dalhousie 2019 Spring Convocations

Government Relations
- Attended my first Student Government Round Table (SGRT) with the provincial government’s Department of Labour and Advanced Education. The government’s relationship with Universities in the province is dictated under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU is a signed agreement between the provincial government and the Council of Nova Scotia University President’s (CONSUP) that touches on university funding and tuition fees among other things.
- In a joint presentation with the CFS member locals, Isa and I discussed how international student fees and the recent 44.4% increase will affect our students and their ability to succeed here at Dal.

Student Engagement
- DSU Ramadan Iftar Collaboration with Muslim Student Leaders
  - I caught wind that the Dalhousie Human Rights & Equity Services, International Centre Security Services we’re working on coordinating the first Dalhousie Ramadan Iftar.
Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims in which we fast from sunrise to sunset for 30 days. It is a spiritual practice that brings you closer to Allah (SWT) - aka God -, family and community. I reached out to the various Muslim student leaders I knew who could help bring a student voice to the table for the inaugural Dalhousie Ramadan Iftar. The event was a huge success with over 175 students, community members and guests coming together to celebrate Islamic religious practice. Kudos to the students who came together only a few days before the event to help coordinate logistics, décor and menu. One great success coming out of this event is the revitalization of the Muslim Student Association. Students who came together for the Iftar are now leaders of the Muslim collective on campus.

- Met with Student During Office Hours
  - Met with students about various things during my office hours.
- Faculty and Student Relations Engagement
  - Supporting Computer Science students to sit on relevant Committees within their Faculty

**Tackling Food Insecurity on Campus**

- DSU Foodbank Expansion
  - Super excited to have started planning for the expansion of the DSU Foodbank. The Member Services Coordinator and Food Bank Coordinator are taking the lead on the logistics of the move. The current Food Bank is located in an electrical closet in the basement of the SUB. It is being moved it to the former health plan office which has been used as a storage space for a while. The new space is at least twice the size of the previous Food Bank.
  - This move will allow for a more effective service for our members. We have the capacity to store more food which directly translates to serving more of our members. We used to have to turn away some food because of the lack of storage space. Now we can barely keep our shelves full week-to-week with the high demand of items. A rough estimate is that the number of students who now access our services has doubled over the last year. Food insecurity is an intersectional issue with marginalized student communities being the most likely to require food support including international students as well as mature students with children.

**Hiring Committees**

- Sat on the hiring committee for the Member Services Coordinator
- Chaired the Council Chair Hiring Committee – successfully completed
- Chairing the Secretary Hiring Committee

**O-Week Committee**

- Attended all the O-Week Committee Meetings
- O-Week Committee Anti-O Workshop
  - Prepared and presented an interactive Anti-O workshop for the O-Week Committee members touching on the various aspects of organizing event spaces in an anti-oppressive framework.
- O-Week Retreat
  - Shopping for the retreat
  - Drive to retreat
  - Participated in the weekend long retreat and acted as a support to the VPSL and her commissioner.

Community Engagement
- DBDLI Black Youth Conference Workshop: Navigating the Education System
  - An important aspect of decolonizing a post-secondary institution like Dalhousie is to directly connect communities that are not often represented in the community with resources and the opportunity to engage. One reason why representation is so important is that often in order to believe one is capable of something, you need to be able to envision it. Having role models or people who are like you succeeding in academia tells Black youth that they too can make it in academia.
  - My workshop focused on the internal, interpersonal, institutional and systemic barriers that exists throughout the education system for Black youth and how they can develop resiliency, build community and thrive despite all the very real roadblocks in their way.

External Organizations
- Canadian Federation of Students
  - Meet with CFS outgoing chairperson and incoming chairperson to start discussing prospective membership and what that will look like on our campus.
  - Attended the CFS National General Meeting as a prospective member.

Sexton Student Engagement
- Transition lunch with a few outgoing DUES Executive.
- Presidential commissioner supporting in meeting key Sexton stakeholder
- Weekly Sexton office hours on Wednesdays 3-5pm
- Coordinate Sexton strategy for the year

Upcoming Projects & Tasks
1. Strategic planning continuation
2. Year-long schedule creation
3. DSU Offices Audit