DSU Vice-President, Academic & External

Report for the period of March 26th – April 8th

Senate
- As Mentioned in the last report, all Senate Meetings were cancelled for this academic year. However, one Senate session will take place, on April 13th and it will take place on Microsoft teams.
- DSU Advocacy Paper Regarding COVID-19
  o The advocacy paper was released on March 24th. A copy of this document could be found here.
  o A huge win from this paper and efforts of other students was Dal introducing the PASS/ILL option. Students who believe that their final grade does not reflect their performance in this class could use this option. This option will be available to students after their final grade is posted on DalOnline.
  o More information about this could be found at Dal’s FAQ page here, and the DSU’s COVID-19 page here. Please feel free to reach out to me (dsuvpae@dal.ca) if you have any other concerns about this and I could give you more information or direct you to someone who would be able to help you.
  o Contacted the Provost to clarify some of the concerns regarding the PASS/ILL option and making sure that all students qualify. The answer we received is that all students can choose what grade option they want, but they would have to talk with someone to make sure that this is the best option for them.
  o Still waiting to hear back for the registrar’s office regarding some of the recommendations in the advocacy paper.

Tuition and Other Student Fees
- Met with the President and the Policy and Governance Coordinator to discuss our approach towards tacking tuition increase on the short and on the long term.
- Meeting with students to support them in different concerns regarding fees for courses running during COVID-19, and in communication with administration and faculty about it.
Internal Affairs
- Meeting with the VPFO to discuss and process International Student Emergency Bursary requests
- Compiling some support resources for students and the community during COVID-19
- Keeping an eye on any updates from the government and relaying relevant information to the team
- Preparing transition documents for the incoming VPAE
- Assisted in editing the Executive Policy

Regular Meetings
Exec. Committee – March 30th
Exec. Check in – April 2nd
Exec. Committee – April 7th

Final Note:
I can’t believe that this very long year is coming to an end and I never thought that this is the way it’s going to happen. It was a challenging year for sure, with a lot of ups and downs. While I certainly did not achieve all what I was hoping to do, I for sure have learned a lot and I’m grateful for this opportunity and for everyone I worked with along the way.

Thank you to the executive team who supported me from day one, and for all the work they have done. It was a pleasure to work alongside you and learn from you everyday.

Thank you to our staff team for all their hard work and for making our plans and dreams a reality. None of the successes we had this year would have happened without your constant support.

Thank you to the Senate student caucus for their eagerness and drive to be the voice of students in the different Senate committees. This was a huge
commitment and not an easy task. But I alongside the student body are thankful for your time and effort.

Thank you to all Council members, especially those who stepped up, spoke up, and took initiative to amplify the voice of their constituents. Whether by working on issues policies, organizing city wide movements, or supporting me with Senate (thanks Ameir lol), I learned a lot from your courage, and I will be carrying that with me in my journey.

Finally, thank YOU Dalhousie students for allowing me to serve you this year. The road ahead is long and bumpy, but as long as we keep building on each other’s work, building each other up, and building the structures to support all of us, especially those on the margins, we will eventually reach a day where fairness prevails.