DSU Vice-President, Academic & External
Report for the period of March 12th – March 25th

Senate
- All Senate general meetings were cancelled due to COVID-19 with the exception Senate Planning and Governance Committee, which will assume the role of Senate during this time.

- SPGC Meeting – March 18th
  o While I do not sit on SPGC, I had multiple calls with the Chair of the Senate Student Caucus and was also in contact with the Policy and Governance Coordinator to prepare for the meeting.
  o This meeting was in camera so we can not share much about it. However, it was challenging to get a voice in it as it was a busy meeting with a lot of items for discussion.
  o Thus, our representatives were not able to discuss academic amnesty for Indigenous students and our recommendations for Senate regarding COVID-19.

- DSU Advocacy Paper Regarding COVID-19
  o Worked with the Policy and Governance Coordinator and the Senate Student Caucus Chair to craft and edit an advocacy paper with 11 recommendations to the Dalhousie Senate to support students at this very challenging time. The advocacy paper was released on March 24th. A copy of this document could be found here.
  o Met with Chair of Senate, Dr. Kevin Hewitt, and Chair of Senate Student Caucus to discuss these recommendations and what is the best avenue to address each of them. We were directed to address some of them (10-11) with the Registrar’s Office.
  o Contacted the Registrar’s office regarding these recommendations and waiting to hear back.

Ombudsperson Person Advisory Committee Meeting – March 24th
- Met with members of the Committee to discuss next steps moving forward
- Currently waiting to have a draft of a letter to be addressed to the Provost on the committees stands on the Ombudsperson Advisory Report Recommendations
Advocacy
- RJS
  o RJS was postponed due to COVID-19
- REDress Project
  o Connected with the Elders in Residence Program to have a better understanding on what the ceremony of putting up the red dresses would look like
  o I, along with other members of staff and executives bought the red dresses and we were getting ready to launch the display. However, this was postponed due to COVID-19.
- Residence Support
  o I was in contact with the university administration as well as DSAS to make sure that students in residence are being treated fairly and are not being arbitrarily evicted during this very challenging time.

Internal Affairs
- Meetings with the directors to have check-ins, and plan for how the rest of the year is going to look like.
- This is a very challenging time we are going through, and it requires that we all work together. A lot of my time during these two weeks was working with the executive team, the directors, and the rest of the staff to respond to the continuously developing and changing situation of COVID-19. This included attending many emergency meetings, taking the difficult decision of closing the Student Union Building as soon as it was possible, and supporting the directors in dealing with the outcomes of this decision. Additionally, we were in constant contact with the university to relay accurate information to students about all the uncertainty in the air. I also had to work from home before we officially closed the building as I was experiencing some cold symptoms and thought it’s safer to work from home.