

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

## Table of Contents

<b>1. ROLL CALL</b>	2
<b>2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA</b>	2
<b>3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	3
<b>4. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED</b>	3
<b>A. Regrets</b>	3
<b>5. APPOINTMENTS</b>	4
<b>6. PRESENTATIONS</b>	4
<b>A. Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service</b>	4
<b>7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</b>	4
<b>A. Board Caucus</b>	4
<b>B. Senate Caucus</b>	5
<b>C. Society Review</b>	5
<b>D. Grants and Sponsorship</b>	5
<b>E. Elections Committee</b>	5
<b>8. NEW BUSINESS</b>	7
<b>A. Mary MacDonald’s Motion</b>	7
<b>B. Budget Advisory Committee</b>	7
<b>9. OLD BUSINESS</b>	10
<b>10. BUSINESS OF THE EXECUTIVE</b>	10
<b>A. President</b>	10
<b>B. Vice-President (Internal)</b>	10
<b>C. Vice-President (Financial and Operations)</b>	10
<b>D. Vice-President (Academic and External)</b>	10
<b>E. Vice-President (Student Life)</b>	10
<b>11. NOTICES OF MOTION</b>	10
<b>12. ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	11
<b>13. ADJOURNMENT</b>	11

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

## CALL TO ORDER at 6:02 PM

### 1. ROLL CALL

#### COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Chris Abraham	Chair
Abir Ayoub	Recording Secretary (non-voting)
Amina Abawajy (she/her)	President
Masuma Khan (she/her)	Vice-President (Academic and External)
Chantal Khoury (she/her)	Vice-President (Finance and Operations)
Alex Hughes (she/her)	Vice-President (Internal)
Jeremy Ryant (he/him)	BOG Representative
Kati George-Jim (she/her)	BOG Representative
Ali Barnaby (she/her)	Aboriginal Students Community
Mary Macdonald (she/her)	Students with Disabilities Community
Ashley Farrell (she/her)	Arts and Social Sciences Representative
Arazoo Hoseyni (she/her)	Computer Science Representative
Kate Rumoldt (she/her)	Dentistry Representative
Yazan Khader (he/him)	Engineering Representative
Rhys Macdonald (he/him)	Graduate Students Representative
Katie MacLellan (she/her)	Science Representative
Kamryn Findlay (she/her)	Agriculture Campus Representative

#### COUNCILLORS ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Cory Larsen (Vice-President of Student Life), Katie Douglas (Women Students Community Representative), Chelsea Cox (Law Representative) and Chad LeClair (Medicine Representative) sent their regrets.

#### COUNCILLORS ABSENT

Mary Macdonald and Rhys Macdonald left the meeting at 7:28 pm. Jeremy Ryant left the meeting at 7:38 pm and Yazan Khader left the meeting at 7:48 pm.

#### OTHERS PRESENT

### 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

#### MOTION 2018-01-24: A01

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be adopted as circulated.

**Moved:** Hughes **Seconded:** Khader

#### MOTION 2018-01-24: A01 CARRIED

#### MOTION 2018-01-24: A02

The Chair received one amendment to the agenda that is relatively substantive, which requires a vote. A new motion under new businesses stating the following:

*Whereas the Budget Advisory Committee December 15, 2017 report, recommended a 3% increase in tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees, as well as a 1.8% cut for all faculty budgets;*

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

*Whereas tuition hikes and budget cuts negatively impact the accessibility and quality of education;*

*Whereas the Dalhousie Faculty Association is currently negotiating a collective agreement with the University in which it demands increased funding for faculties to lower the workload upon faculty, and improve the University's comparability; therefore*

*Be it resolved (1) that the Dalhousie Student Union oppose any proposed tuition fee hikes and any proposed faculty budget cuts, both for this year and any future year; (to remove) for this year.*

*Be it further resolved (2) that the DSU support the complete elimination of tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees;*

*Be it further resolved (3) that the Dalhousie Student Union express support for the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability;*

*Be it further resolved (4) that the DSU's External Committee work to mobilize Members to oppose any proposed tuition hikes or faculty budget cuts, and to support the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability.*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be amended to add this motion (Budget Advisory Committee) under New Business section 8.B.

**Moved:** Khan **Seconded:** Abawajy

**MOTION 2018-01-24: A02 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-01-24: A03**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be accepted as amended.

**MOTION 2018-01-24: A03 CARRIED**

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting (January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018) was not submitted on time, but will be submitted for approval for the next council meeting (February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018).

**MOTION 2018-01-24: M01**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes from the December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 council meeting be accepted as circulated.

**Moved:** Khan **Seconded:** MacLellan

**MOTION 2018-01-24: M01 CARRIED**

### 4. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

#### A. Regrets

Cory Larsen (Vice-President of Student Life), Katie Douglas (Women Students Community Representative), Chelsea Cox (Law Representative) and Chad LeClair (Medicine Representative) sent their regrets.

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

## 5. APPOINTMENTS

## 6. PRESENTATIONS

### A. Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service

*Rosalea Thompson (Executive Director, External) and Nora MacIntosh (Executive Director, Internal), members of the Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service (DSAS), presented a 15-minute presentation about what is DSAS, its mandate, its values, the statistics of DSAS, and the overall strengths and challenges DSAS faces. Intake forms and a year-end report 1991/92 were circulated around council members.*

*The DSAS Mandate is to help any student with the administrative process of dealing with allocations from the University. Most cases involve academic integrity and office meetings. DSAS also appears before the Senate Disciplinary Committee that involves academic allocations and Student Code of Conduct issues. DSAS represent both complaints and respondents before the Senate Disciplinary Committee.*

*As language barrier is a major issue for most international students; there is an issue of procedural unfairness within the university. DSAS has taken the responsibility to work with the International Student Center to provide students with translation services, as Dalhousie doesn't provide translation services.*

*Students perceive DSAS members as lawyers but this is not the case. DSAS members are not able to provide any legal advice for students but can provide important information and they can make referrals. DSAS can only represent students before the University and not any other body.*

*The Challenges to DSAS:*

*External: the leading challenges are resources and funding, and time in adequately payment of the DSAS executives. Other challenges include overloaded EDI portfolio, spike in case load (especially for Nora's (the internal executive director) position) and meeting the needs of international students.*

*Internal: challenges include operating policies (involving the DSU Council and DSAS to create and execute policies), advocates' resources on complex cases, executive transitions and meeting advocates' demands.*

### **MOTION 2018-01-24: P01**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to add 5 minutes to the presentation section for questions.

**Moved:** Abawajy **Seconded:** Khader

### **MOTION 2018-01-24: P01 CARRIED**

## 7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

### A. Board Caucus

Abawajy said that the Board has not met since the last council meeting.

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

Ryant attended a Capital project meeting and a Biomass project meeting. He is excited with the outcome of both meetings, as good results are perceived for both projects.

George-Jim mentioned during their last meeting, they were reflecting on divestment and doing groundwork with students on how the board can actively support and make divestment accessible to students. At the same time how the board can foster relationships with committee members. The ultimate goal is to bring divestment to the table in a more intimate setting for committees.

## **B. Senate Caucus**

Khan said that they didn't have a senate meeting because the faculty attended the administration report meeting, which included an inclusion and diversity training.

SLTC (Senate Learning Teaching Committee) have met last week. The senate has been working on the structure of the senate caucus and making sure there is proper support in place to ensure students are represented on the senate. With the new addition of the four extra seats, they increased their representation by 2%. It is important that they make sure who is sitting on these seats are going through an equity lens as senate diversity doesn't exist.

## **C. Society Review**

Hughes said that they now have 341 societies, which is great as the Society Review committee is close to their goal (365 societies). The society review haven't meet yet since last council meeting. They will be working soon on the Society Caucus's base of allocations for next year.

## **D. Grants and Sponsorship**

Khoury said that the committee met two weeks ago and they are planning to meet again. They have exploited and used 65% of their funds. She encourages the board members to reach to their constituents to apply for Grants and Sponsorship before they close. She will update the board once the committee reaches capacity.

## **E. Elections Committee**

The Chair received a request from the chair of the election committee and chief return officer to submit a report, which was circulated in the Council Package.

Alex, the chief returning officer, first point is that in the past minutes there is a mistake in regards to the election-voting period. It was agreed during December 6, 2017(Council meeting) that voting period will be only 2 days but on the minutes it was mentioned the period is from 12 March to 24 March, which he says is a mistake. Khan asks if the minutes can be amended. The Chair will amend the minutes the minutes of December 6, 2017.

The second point is to have an online platform for election, and therefore an online signature rather than a physical paper form signature. So, Abwajy

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

mentioned to Alex, before this council meeting, that in regards to having a physical signature in part of the initial referendum to set a propellant as an online electronic signature, the Election Committee would need a 3<sup>rd</sup> party position say on this change. However, when the Election Committee voted on this, there was some complications as the election committee should not vote on this change, it is not their decision. Alex wants clarification.

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: R01**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to add a discussion item under New Businesses in regards to the upcoming general election.

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: R01 Failed**

Abawajy wants to clarify her position on signatures. Electronic signatures have not been done before, and they would need paper signatures. The reason for paper signatures is based of the ruling that the Chair has made in the past council meetings and signatures are a fundamental of the bylaws, so it would be a decision for Council and not a decision made by Abawajy or the Election's Committee.

Alex Li mentions that he was under the assumption that the position of online signatures was on the Election Committee and the committee is upset with Alex due to critical dependency. Overall there are some policy issues.

George-Jim answers Alex concerns and mentions that this coming elections still has the same issues in place as previous elections. George-Jim would hope this coming election to not to be void and that it goes through the work of the Election Committee, the CRO and the DRO. As this process will build these campaigns for referenda questions so societies will not face problems of misinterpreting the policy. It is better to follow the policy and ensure the legitimacy of the referenda question so the questions can be brought to the Board of Governors once the election is finished. It is a procedural error when something is misinterpreted from the bylaws as the bylaws override any decision made at a subcommittee level such as the Election committee.

Khan is aware of the benefits of having electronic process. So Khan states two things, first to extend the time for societies so they can make up lost time and societies are ensured their referendum is submitted. Second, if the Election Committee can mention electronic signatures in a report and task Council/DSU to find a solution for this in the future.

## **Alex wants to add two items to the next meeting Agenda (February 7, 2018).**

1. "The ratification of New Councillor(s)" as a standing item on the Council's meeting agenda until all vacancies are filled.
2. "The review and approval of referendum question(s)" as a standing item on the Council's meeting agenda until all referendum questions are processed.

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Mary MacDonald's Motion

#### MOTION 2018-01-24: P01

*Whereas* Dalhousie Student Union members benefit when the university is guided by strong leadership and judgement;

*Whereas* the proven leadership skills of President Richard Florizone have been widely acknowledged as exemplary;

*Be it resolved* that the Dalhousie Student Union congratulates President Richard Florizone on his re-appointment to a second term as president of Dalhousie University and looks forward to working cooperatively with him as he fulfils his leadership objectives

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Dalhousie Student Union congratulates President Richard Florizone on his re-appointment to a second term as president of Dalhousie University

**Moved:** Mary Macdonald **Seconded:** Rhys Macdonald

#### MOTION 2018-01-24: P01 Failed

### B. Budget Advisory Committee

#### MOTION 2018-01-24: P02

*Whereas* the Budget Advisory Committee December 15, 2017 report, recommended a 3% increase in tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees, as well as a 1.8% cut for all faculty budgets;

*Whereas* tuition hikes and budget cuts negatively impact the accessibility and quality of education;

*Whereas* the Dalhousie Faculty Association is currently negotiating a collective agreement with the University in which it demands increased funding for faculties to lower the workload upon faculty, and improve the University's comparability; therefore

***Be it resolved (1)*** that the Dalhousie Student Union oppose any proposed tuition fee hikes and any proposed faculty budget cuts, both for this year and any future year; (to remove) for this year.

***Be it further resolved (2)*** that the DSU support the complete elimination of tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees;

***Be it further resolved (3)*** that the Dalhousie Student Union express support for the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability;

***Be it further resolved (4)*** that the DSU's External Committee work to mobilize Members to oppose any proposed tuition hikes or faculty budget cuts, and to

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

*support the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability.*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to introduce this Statement of solidarity with the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) to Council

**Moved:** Khader **Seconded:** Abawajy

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: P03**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to remove the “Be it further resolved (2): that the DSU support the complete elimination of tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees” cause of this motion and to remove the phrase “both for this year and any future year” in the first “Be it resolved (1)” cause.

**Moved:** Khader **Seconded:** Hughes

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: P03 CARRIED**

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: P04**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council have a five minute recess

**Moved:** George-Jim **Seconded:** Abawajy

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: P04 CARRIED**

## **MOTION 2018-01-24: P05**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to split the original motion **P02** into two separate motions.

### **The First Motion**

Whereas the Dalhousie Faculty Association is currently negotiating a collective agreement with the University in which it demands increased funding for faculties to lower the workload upon faculty, and improve the University's comparability; therefore

**Be it further resolved (3)** that the Dalhousie Student Union express support for the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability

### **The Second Motion**

Whereas the Budget Advisory Committee December 15, 2017 report, recommended a 3% increase in tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees, as well as a 1.8% cut for all faculty budgets;

Whereas tuition hikes and budget cuts negatively impact the accessibility and quality of education;

**Be it resolved (1)** that the Dalhousie Student Union oppose any proposed tuition fee hikes and any proposed faculty budget cuts, (to remove) for this year.

**Be it further resolved (2)** that the DSU's External Committee work to mobilize Members to oppose any proposed tuition hikes or faculty budget cuts, and to



# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

support the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability.

**Moved:** Abawajy **Seconded:** George-Jim

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P05 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P06**

*Whereas* the Budget Advisory Committee December 15, 2017 report, recommended a 3% increase in tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees, as well as a 1.8% cut for all faculty budgets;

*Whereas* tuition hikes and budget cuts negatively impact the accessibility and quality of education;

**Be it resolved (1)** that the Dalhousie Student Union oppose any proposed tuition fee hikes and any proposed faculty budget cuts, (to remove) for this year.

**Be it further resolved (2)** that the DSU's External Committee work to mobilize Members to oppose any proposed tuition hikes or faculty budget cuts, and to support the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council moves forward with the amended motion

**Moved:** Khader **Seconded:** Abawajy

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P06 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P07**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to amend the amended motion P06. To add the following phrase to the motion:

*Whereas* Dalhousie University and the Budget Advisory Committee need more accessible and relevant consultations with student staff and faculty regarding the University Opening Budget.

## **New Motion**

*Whereas* the Budget Advisory Committee December 15, 2017 report, recommended a 3% increase in tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees, as well as a 1.8% cut for all faculty budgets;

*Whereas Dalhousie University and the Budget Advisory Committee need more accessible and relevant consultations with student staff and faculty regarding the University Opening Budget.*

*Whereas* tuition hikes and budget cuts negatively impact the accessibility and quality of education;

**Be it resolved (1)** that the Dalhousie Student Union oppose any proposed tuition fee hikes and any proposed faculty budget cuts, (to remove) for this year.

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

**Be it further resolved (2)** that the DSU’s External Committee work to mobilize Members to oppose any proposed tuition hikes or faculty budget cuts, and to support the Dalhousie Faculty Association’s demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability.

**Moved:** George-Jim **Seconded:** Abawajy

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P07 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P08**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to propose this amended motion

Whereas the Dalhousie Faculty Association is currently negotiating a collective agreement with the University in which it demands increased funding for faculties to lower the workload upon faculty, and improve the University’s comparability; therefore

**Be it further resolved (1)** that the Dalhousie Student Union express support for the Dalhousie Faculty Association’s demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability

**Moved:** Khader **Seconded:** Abawajy

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P08 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-01-24: P02 CARRIED**

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

## 10. BUSINESS OF THE EXECUTIVE

### A. President

Abawajy circulated her written report in the Council package.

### B. Vice-President (Internal)

Hughes circulated her written report in the Council package. Mary Macdonald would like to add a discussion about the Accessibility Fund Committee at the next Council meeting.

### C. Vice-President (Financial and Operations)

Khoury circulated her written report in the Council package.

### D. Vice-President (Academic and External)

Khan circulated her written report in the Council package.

### E. Vice-President (Student Life)

Larsen circulated his written report in the Council package.

## 11. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. Dalhousie Faculty Motion (the original motion presented under the Budget Advisory Committee and the edited points made to that motion)
2. Notice to discipline a Councilor Mary Macdonald: Alex Hughes mover of Motion

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

## 3. The Amendments to the bylaw

The first and second notice of motion will be debated at the next council meeting February 7, 2018 while the third notice of motion will be debated on March 7, 2018.

## 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Signup for Survivor Support Volunteer Training.
2. Racial Justice Symposium is February 9 & 10
3. Survivor Support Volunteer Training is February 3 & 4
4. Barnaby is the In-term president of DISC, as Brent stepped down from this position.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION 2018-01-10: A04**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting of Council be adjourned.

**Moved:** Khan **Seconded:** Barnaby

**MOTION 2018-01-10: A04 CARRIED**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm**