Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 24, 2019; 6:00pm – Romero Room, Sexton Campus

Call to order at 6:15 pm by Chair

1. ROLL CALL

Councillors Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aisha Abawajy (she/her)</td>
<td>President</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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<td>Hasan Sinan (he/him)</td>
<td>Vice President (Academic &amp; External Interim) &amp; FASS Rep.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claudia Prent-Castillo</td>
<td>Black Student Community</td>
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<td>Sandra Sunil (she/her)</td>
<td>Residence Students Community – (Called in)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara Goswami (she/her)</td>
<td>International Student Representative</td>
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<td>Lenka Wicha (she/her)</td>
<td>Agricultural Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Yusuf (he/him)</td>
<td>Health Professions Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herman Stubeda</td>
<td>Medicine Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bakhmala Khan</td>
<td>Science Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Drake</td>
<td>DalOut Rep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julia Sarty</td>
<td>Engineering Representative</td>
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<td>Meghan Faught</td>
<td>Law Representative</td>
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Councillors Absent With Regrets

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatima Beydoun</td>
<td>Board Of Governors Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Doolan</td>
<td>Management Representative</td>
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Councillors Absent

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shivam Mahajan</td>
<td>Computer Science Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fallen Matthew</td>
<td>Grad Students Representative</td>
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</tbody>
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Others Present

Alicia Aikens - Secretary (Called in)
Charity Justrabo - Chair
Jasmine Maher
Faiza Nauman

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion 2.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT council amends motion 8.1 to read as the following...

“WHEREAS renovations were completed for the DSU during the council term of 2018-2019; and
WHEREAS failure to publish meeting minutes has led to the inability to locate the previous relevant motion that would allow the completed renovations to be paid for; therefore
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council pays invoice SUB-2015-17 for $354,896.35 for which the money has been previously allocated.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED
THAT if a motion does exist from the previous council that this motion will act to second it. “
Mover: Seconder:
Carries (12-0)

Motion 2.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT The amended agenda be adopted.
Mover: President Seconder: Health Professions Representative
Motion 2.1.2: Carries (12-0)
3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**Motion 3.1**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the June 19th meeting be accepted.
Mover: VPSL Seconder: VPAE

**Motion 3.2**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the June 19th meeting be amended as directed by VP Internal.
Mover: VPAE Seconder: VPFO
Motion 3.2: Carries (12-0)

**Motion 3.3**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the June 19th meeting be accepted with these amendments
Mover: VPI Seconder: VPSL
Motion 3.3: Carries (12-0)

Point of Information: The Agriculture Representative noted that they felt misrepresented in the council minutes of May 22, 2019. They wanted to clarify that they spoke in favor of the Canadian Federation of Students presentation, rather than in favor of the organization itself.

4. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

Hannah Doolan (Faculty of Management Representative) sends regrets and Kaitlyn Veestra will act as proxy.

5. APPOINTMENTS

**Motion 5.1.1**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the three appointments be voted upon in omnibus.
Mover: Health Professions Representative Seconder: Vice President Finance and Operations (VPFO)

Motion 5.1.1: Carries (12-0)

a. Faculty of Law Representative

Motion 5.1.2

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Meghan Faught be appointed as the Faculty of Law Representative on Council for the 2019-2020 academic year.

b. Faculty of Engineering Representative

Motion 5.1.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Julia Sarty be appointed as the Faculty of Engineering Representative on Council for the 2019-2020 academic year.

c. Faculty of Medicine Representative

Motion 5.1.4

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Herman Stubeda be appointed as the Faculty of Medicine Representative on Council for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Motion 5.2

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council moves to approve all omnibus appointments.

Mover: VPFO Seconder: President

Motion 5.2.1: Carries (15-0)

President comments on the vacant positions, why they are vacant, and that these positions must be filled through a bi election for community reps. That the Chair and Secretary should have been appointed last year but were not, so she had to act as chair. She has a list of contacts, elected, and past communications regarding attempts to fill vacant positions. Indigenous student rep, Students with Disabilities rep, Women’s
Representative, do not have community to represent these groups, so we do not have a representative who was appointed, and no one ran through elections. Person interested in the women’s rep position has been invited to attend with speaking privileges.

Question raised regarding proxy voting positions. Proxy’s can vote.

6. PRESENTATIONS
   a. There are no presentations.

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
   a. By-Law and Policy Review Committee will be chaired by President and will be meeting in August. Still looking for members to join, she will look into voting rights in that space.
   b. Grants and Sponsorship Review Committee will be meeting on Friday.
   c. Budget and Finance Committee is currently looking for a member who is not a councillor to sit on that committee.

Point of Clarification: Do these committees need to pass changes to by-laws through council?
   President: It depends on the decision, by-laws will need to change at AGM for example, but committees are given power over some decisions. By-law committee for example comes up with suggestions for by-law changes as well.

Point of Clarification regarding quorum for making changes to by-laws at annual general meetings
   President: 1% of student body is quorum at these meetings, notes that attendance was approximately 160 last year.
   d. Student Life Committee has been meeting every week working on O-Week during the summer. There are still spaces for committee and leaders if you are interested in joining or helping out.
   Point of Information: Is this committee in charge of International Student Orientation?
   VPAE: No.
This committee meets every Tuesday in council chambers at 6pm
e. Offices Steering Committee oversees Sustainability, Student Advocacy and Equity & Accessibility offices. They had a meeting at the end of June. DSUSO presented their annual plan. E&A approved position for project management. DSAS is working on getting funding and support from the DSU through this committee.
f. Society Review Committee. Hoping to meet quorum next week and go through Faculty and Levy society ratifications.

President notes: As a new council member, you should sit on at least one committee. The DSU is working on forming a student mental health/ wellness committee. List of committees will be circulated to be ratified. Note many of them don’t start meeting regularly until the fall.

8. OLD BUSINESS
Motion 8.1

WHEREAS renovations were completed for the DSU during the council term of 2018-2019; and
WHEREAS failure to publish meeting minutes has led to the inability to locate the previous relevant motion that would allow the completed renovations to be paid for; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council pays invoice SUB-2015-17 for $354,896.35 for which the money has been previously allocated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT if a motion does exist from the previous council that this motion will act to second it.
Mover: President Seconder: VPAE

VPFO explains this motion. That there were discrepancies in billing and who would pay for some project costs. A motion was put forward at some point last year to pay the outstanding balance for the 2015-17 invoice of $354,896.35 but was lost. The invoice was
circulated in this meeting, and it was noted that the money was budgeted for this expense. The project was cost-shared between Dalhousie University and the DSU. There has been a back and forth regarding how much the University vs the DSU would pay. The university is doing new renovations on the SUB but won’t until this balance is paid. This has been a four-year debate and the technicalities of paying such a large sum of money are challenging.

The university has started these renovations due to a conversation with council member, these renovations are structurally integral to the building.

President explains what exactly was renovated to explain to council the extent of the renovations.

**Motion 8.1:** Carries (15-0)

9. New Business
   a) President explains the Oversight committee, what it does, then opens the floor to see if anyone is interested in joining. The committee has a variety of representative positions open. This committee must be filled in July. Claudia as Community Representative and Julia as a Faculty Representative have expressed interest in the committee.

**Motion 9.1**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Claudia be appointed as a Community Representative and Julia as a Faculty Representative on the oversight committee.

Mover: VPAE Seconder: VPSL
Motion 9.1: Carries (15-0)

**Motion 9.2**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT council takes a 10 minute recess to eat at 7:25.
Moved: Health Professions Representative Seconded: VPFO
Motion: Carries (15-0)
10. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Question period

a) Executive membership

a. We are perspective members of the Student Union Network—the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)—it is a one-year free trial meaning we are not paying dues. Our by-laws as of right now outline the financial and logistical requirements to joining an outside organization. Through the perspective membership, this bylaw is not being broken. The by-laws will be reviewed by the committed then brought to an AGM. Dalhousie was a part of CFS as a founding member. The move towards membership was worked on last year and presented at the AGM, where a decision was made to join either CFS or the Canadian Alliance of Students Association. When brought before this year’s council, a decision was made to join CFS as a prospective member. Council is still looking into this by-law to ensure nothing is being broken. We can’t enter a legally binding agreement with an external institution without a legal consultation. No contracts have been signed by the DSU with the CFS. A vote of council started prospective membership. By-law amendments will have to be made to ensure that if a positive referendum vote results at the end of the prospective membership that the DSU continues to be in line with the ruling of our by-laws. By-laws are amended at a DSU AGM that takes place once a year.

b) Question regarding the referendum, will it require over a 50% positive vote of the DSU membership or positive votes from 50% of students who turn out for the vote?

i. The DSU and CFS have requirements regarding referendums. We will need to have a further discussion regarding the size of quorum, including legal consultation for the referendum. We will do everything in our [the Elections Committee] power to get a large turnout. President notes that voter turnout is low on all levels, including federal and municipal, so getting people out to vote will benefit from getting a year free trial so students can see if CFS actually has impacted the DSU. They can make informed decisions.

b. Question from the Faculty of Law Representative: If the prospective membership is not legally binding, then can we end it at any time by council vote?
i. There is nothing binding us to CFS right now, but the Executive doesn’t know if anyone has dropped out during the first year before. Everyone that has joined goes through the first free year due to the democratic process. The DSU’s variable membership is due to the turnover of students, and the evolving social and environmental challenges faced by the student body and if these organizations suit the needs of the students over time. The informed choice option is crucial to inform students. We get a year where we are able to have our voice heard at provincial and federal levels, through our access to their services.

c. Faculty of Engineering Representative speaks on behalf of external policies and questions the exit conditions from the CFS and expresses concerns about the fact that quorum must be met for an exit vote.

i. A referendum would have to be held to exit. Our by-law regarding quorum is higher than CFS’s for exit votes. This is only required after official membership. If the referendum does not pass, then we will not be official or perspective members anymore.

d. The Black Students Representative states that her perspective of the prospective membership is like any other free membership trial, where if you want to use it, you're free to. If not, then you can just not use it.

e. Where is the sudden urge to join the CFS coming from? Other students from other Universities are trying to exit the CFS. Which resources will we use? Why didn’t council members know about the CFS visit before the meeting?

i. No one told the President that the CFS rep could come in for a presentation at the meeting until two hours before the meeting, so it didn’t make it on the agenda to allow council members to prepare. CFS has a NS office and council members can ask questions or the CFS can be invited back for another presentation. The Chair will circulate their contacts for questions. We do plan to use CFS’s tabling services for tuition freezes, voting campaigns, and other matters as they have way more resources for developing these campaigns then we do. Any student can call up the CFS now to get information or resources. No
f. The Residence Representative is looking for more information for contacts, what perspective membership entails, etc. for councillors and students to access.
   i. This info will be circulated.

g. The Agricultural Representative asks: Would the referendum be a paper ballot, how would this work with the Agricultural Campus (AC), how would the AC fees be affected since there are different. What is the dollar amount per semester?
   i. Fees change every year, but it is about $7 per student, this will be confirmed over email after checking the CFS membership website.
   ii. The DSU will ensure the CFS goes to the Agricultural campus and Sexton for voting. Since the DSU’s bylaws state that there has to be an electronic voting office while the CFS constitution requires a paper ballot for the referendum, this will need to be sorted between the two parties.

h. Did the executives know there were conflicts with the CFS by-laws and the DSU by-laws that would lead us to having to change our own by-laws if we joined as members?
   i. Yes, they were aware that membership would go against our by-laws and that we would have to change ours, however, due to the years of work towards this partnership they still moved to a vote for perspective membership because of this. The motion to vote on this membership was brought up by the Board of Governors Representative as an amendment at some point during the meeting when the CFS presented, for the vote to be added to the agenda. There is no conflict of interest with the Vice President of Finance and Operations who sits on the CFS board as she will not gain money by getting the DSU to join. She worked as a summer student with the CFS, and declares that if anyone had an issue with her voting she would have abstained.
   ii. Why was council not informed of this if you were privy to the knowledge? No answer provided.
j. The Faculty of Health Professions Representatives says we should not dwell on the things council did not know before the meeting, and thinks figuring out changes to that vote would be a waste of time. He says we should focus on the referendum and AGM. We should get a high turnout so that the student body is actually represented, because there WILL be a fee. The outcome of the referendum needs to be representative of the students. Ballots will cause a massive accessibility issue. Need to have AGM before referendum. Hopefully the CFS can speak on the reasons for their opposition to electronic balloting.
   i. The CFS has had discussions about changing type of voting before, they know electronic balloting has had challenges because intimidation tactics have been used- skewing referendum results. Reach out to other schools who are members of the CFS, as well as the CFS, publishing a pro and con list to inform constituents as well as possible before the referendum.
   ii. President notes that she and the CFS are available for answering questions. Make an informed decision, talk to people at Kings College, other schools, our population across the board.

k. The Black Students Representative says: Wanted to note for transparency that she now works for CFS for a summer internship, but at the time of the vote was not working there, had only just submitted applications and did not know that she would be working with them

l. Is there anyone here on council that is affiliated with the CFS?
   i. Isa said that she is affiliated and made that clear throughout her campaign. She mentioned there was a $500 honorarium for her and that she is a representative of some sort with them, sitting on the board.

m. Do you view this as a conflict of interest?
   i. There is no material conflict of interest because she would not be getting more money that she already is getting by having us join.

n. Is anyone else affiliated with the CFS?
   i. President said that she worked there as a summer intern and said this is not a conflict of interest and would have abstained from the vote had someone asked her to.

o. Why were we not given notice of motion?
i. Executives said they had no prior knowledge of a motion before it was put forward and that it wasn’t their intent to join at that meeting.

ii. President said we were not given notice because they were unaware that a motion would be passed and VPFO said that it was because they didn’t know a presentation was happening until the day before that meeting.

iii. VPFO stated that we have not signed anything nor entered into a binding agreement with the CFS. The conflicts with the bylaws are only conflicts once we officially join as members.

c) New Directors

President forgot to ask new directors to come in, but you can pop by any time to chat with Director of Operations who has experience helping pull a local bar out of a deficit they were running. She will help us create a safe, zero tolerance space, and ensure that the event culture is accessible and diverse. Director of Research and Outreach, she has experience working with food insecurity research, she will be working on the ground with our offices to support our students and our services.

a. Topic of discussion brought up about the big decisions made in the last meeting and says there is not a lot of detail in last meeting’s minutes regarding these decisions and asks for a recap of the events of the last meeting as they were not present, but should have been ratified by that time—therefore privy to the information.

i. Last week’s discussion was in camera so the events cannot be discussed with those not in camera last week because she was not ratified last week and not privy to the information. Will need to look into the rules regarding the information being shared. Likely not because it was a private- HR matter. President suggests email correspondence regarding the email. The restructuring can be discussed, but HR matters can not.

d) Executive reports

a. President (Aisha)
   ii. Will be sent out with minutes.

b. Vice President Internal (Calista)
   i. Will be sent with minutes.
c. Vice President Finance and Operations (Isa)
   i. Will be sent with minutes.

d. Vice President Student Life (Ruby)
   i. Will be sent with minutes.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION
a. None.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS
a. None

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion 13.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that DSU council adjourns.

Mover: Faculty of Law Representative Second: Black Students Representative
Motion carries. (15-0)

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:45pm

Minutes submitted by Secretary: