Council Meeting
November 20th, 2019 - 6:00pm – Council Chambers, Student Union Building

Call to order at 6:00 pm by Chair

1. Roll Call

Councillors Present
- Aisha Abawajy (she/her) – President
- Isa Wright (she/her or they/them) - Vice President (Finance and Operations)
- Ruby Coles (she/her) - Vice President (Student life)
- Calista Hills (she/her) - Vice President (Internal)
- Fatima Beydoun - Board of Governors Representative
- Naomi Bird - Indigenous Students Community Representative
- Claudia Castillo-Prentt - Black Students Community Representative
- Murray acting as proxy for International Students Community Representative
- Hannah Drake - LGBTQ Students Community Representative
- Sandra Sunil (she/her) - Residence Students Community Representative
- Lenka Wicha (she/her) - Faculty of Agriculture Representative
- Shivam Mahajan – Faculty of Computer Science Representative
- Ryan Callahan - Faculty of Dentistry Representative
- Julia Sarty - Faculty of Engineering Representative
- Fallen Matthew - Faculty of Graduate Students Representative
- Joshua Yusuf (he/him) - Faculty of Health Professions Representative
- Meghan Faught - Faculty of Law Representative
- Ameir Yahia - Faculty of Management Representative
- Herman Stubeda - Faculty of Medicine Representative
- Bakhmala Khan - Faculty of Science Representative

Councillors Absent With Regrets
- Sara Goswami – International Students Community Representative

Councillors Absent

Others Present
- Charity Justrabo - Chair
- Kranthi Kiran Jalakam - Secretary
2. Land Acknowledgment

3. Adoption of the Agenda
   Motion 3.1
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.
   **Mover:** Faculty of Law Representative  **Seconder:** Faculty of Graduate Students Representative

   Motion 3.2
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to include the motion: Be It Resolved That Krutin Trivedi be appointed to the Grants and Sponsorship Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.
   **Mover:** VP Finance and Operations

   Motion Carries

   Motion 3.3
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to include the motion: Be It Resolved That Seyed Alireza Siadata be appointed to the Budget and Finance Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.
   **Mover:** VP Finance and Operations

   Motion 3.4
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to move item 9.a) to after the New Business of the agenda.
   **Mover:** VP Finance and Operations

   Motion 3.5
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be amended to add a discussion to new business about the Truro Campus and CFS Prospective Membership.
   **Mover:** Faculty of Graduate Students Representative

   Motion 3.6
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be amended to remove item 10.e) from the agenda.
   **Mover:** Faculty of Health Professions Representative

   Motion 3.7
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT agenda is amended to include the motion: Be It Resolved That Naomi Bird be appointed to the Offices Steering Committee
   **Mover:** VP Internal

   Motion 3.8
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the amendments be adopted.
   **Mover:** President  **Seconder:** LGBTQ Students Community Representative  
(20 – 0)
   **Motion Carries**

   Motion 3.9
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated and amended.
4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion 4.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the November 6th meeting be accepted as circulated.

Mover: VP Student Life Seconder: Faculty of Computer Science Representative
(20 – 0)
Motion Carries

5. Communications Received

Sara Goswami (International Students Community Rep) sends her regrets and Murray is acting as proxy.

6. Appointments

a) Motion 6.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT four appointments be voted upon in omnibus.

Mover: VP Student Life Seconder: Indigenous Students Community Representative
(19 – 0 - 1)
Motion Carries

i. Elections Committee
Motion 6.1.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Damian Mensch be appointed to the Elections Committee for the 2019-2020 academic year.

ii. Grants and Sponsorship Committee
Motion 6.1.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Krutin Trivedi be appointed to the Grants and Sponsorship Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.

iii. Budget and Finance Committee
Motion 6.1.3
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Seyed Alireza Siadata be appointed to the Budget and Finance Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.

iv. Offices Steering Committee
Motion 6.1.4
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Naomi Bird be appointed to the Offices Steering Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.

Motion 6.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council moves to approve all omnibus appointments.

(18 – 0 – 2)
Motion Carries

b) Prospective council member presentations

Joshua – During the reading week, there were two sessions. Nobody showed up on Tuesday. Two people showed up on Thursday and one person video conference interviewed. Two students messaged and said they couldn’t make it. One person came to oversight committee meeting today. No students came forward for Students with Disability representative position and one person who came forward for Women’s representative position couldn’t meet in person due to personal reasons. Recommends extending the appointment of both of those positions to council meeting on December 4th.

Point of Information (Ruby) – Are all the candidates presenting in front of each other?
Joshua – We can vote on that.

Joshua talked about Seyed (VPAE and BOG candidate) and his statement. Circulated his CV.

Motion 6.3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT five minutes be given for presentation and five minutes be given for questions for each candidate.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: LGBTQ Students Community Representative
(20 – 0)
Motion Carries

Hasan (VPAE candidate) gave a presentation.

Aisha – These jobs require a lot of time and work. How do you plan to prioritise self-care in the position.

Hasan – Experienced it in the first five months. It was a trial and error learning experience about what can be done for self-care.

Joshua – Growing student discontent with certain external organizations falls under the portfolio of the VPAE. How are you going to ensure that dominant student voice comes out and is heard on matters at the council level regarding external organizations?

Hasan – Happy to support students with different points of views about the external organizations. Hear from them and provide them with whatever required to voice their opinion on a higher level when the time comes depending on what happens with the judicial board.

Fami (BOG candidate) gave a presentation.

Ameir – Can you tell what the BOG do?
Fami – The BOG of governors decide for example for the tuition fees depending on the budget. They take into account of all the activities going around.

Fallen – How do you think if you were given this position, would you relay the student interests as a priority as opposed to the administrative interests?
Fami – Will listen to what the students are thinking about and listen to their opinions. When it comes to judging between students and administration, it will always come down to whether it will help the majority or not.

Isa – At the DSU, we do our best to work from an anti-oppressive framework and empower the most marginalized student to take part in student organizing. It will be your responsibility to prioritize that when you are representing us at the BOG. Do you have any experience doing anti-oppressive work?

Fami – So far don’t have any experience in that but would be willing to learn.

Aisha – Any work or policy experience?
Fami – No.

Jamal (BOG candidate) gave a presentation.

Fallen - How do you think if you were given this position, would you relay the student interests as a priority as opposed to the administrative interests?

Jamal – University won’t always have the same opinion as us.

Ameir – What does the BOG do?

Jamal – It oversees the rest of Dalhousie in relation to items that are not related to the Senate. It looks over to make sure the budget is good. It looks over to make sure it represents the values and the overall interest of anyone related to the school. It makes sure that it all functions together.

Isa - At the DSU, we do our best to work from an anti-oppressive framework and empower the most marginalized student to take part in student organizing. It will be your responsibility to prioritize that when you are representing us at the BOG. Do you have any experience doing anti-oppressive work?

Jamal – One thing last year, worked for the public service for the government of Canada and the team was with the learning development team and was there to improve the overall ability of the staff. One of the things they did was giving an event that was related to engaging and improving the relationship between the federal government and the local indigenous communities. Was the student lead on that. Was there to make sure that everyone had a voice and everything was done properly and respectfully. It was a difficult task.

Fatima – On the logistical side of things, considering that BOG only meets so few times of the year in addition to joining committees, what does your time commitment look like?

Jamal – Only in 3 classes this semester and 3 in the next. 2 classes in the summer. Working about 6 hours a week. Has the time to make sure that there are no conflicts relating to personal life or otherwise.

Ruby – Are you done next year with your program?
Jamal – Currently, last semester at Dal would be next fall. Possibly can be extended to winter semester.

**Motion 6.4**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move in-camera for discussion.

**Mover: BOG Representative  Seconder: VP Student Life**

(18 – 1 – 0)

**Motion Carries**

**Motion 6.5**
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adjourn for 10 minutes after which council will move in-camera.

Mover: Faculty of Management Representative  Seconder: Black Students Community Representative  
(15 – 3 – 2) 
Motion Carries

Council moved in-camera.

Motion 6.6

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move out of camera.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Management Representative  
(20 – 0) 
Motion Carries

Council moved out of camera.

Votes were counted.

Hasan has been appointed to VPAE position.

Seyed has been elected to BOG Representative position.

Point of Information (Meghan) – Would we be able to know the breakdown of the votes? 
Chair – The percentages could be given.

Motion 6.7 (Voted on by special resolution)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council ratify the balloted voted appointing Hasan Sinan as Vice President Academic and External and Seyed Alireza Siadat as Board of Governors Representative for the remainder of the 2019-2020 year.

Moved by: VPI  Seconder: Indigenous Student Representative  
(19 – 0 – 0) 
Motion Carries

Motion 6.8

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the deadline for the appointment of students with disabilities representative and the women’s representative positions be delayed to the December 4th meeting.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: LGBTQ Students Community Representative  
(21 – 0) 
Motion Carries
Motion 6.9

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the motion 10.c) in the agenda moved to be the next item of business.

Mover: LGBTQ Students Community Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Dentistry Representative
(21 – 0)
Motion Carries

7. Presentations

8. Committee Reports

9. Old Business

10. New Business

Motion 10.1

WHEREAS The Dalhousie Student Union works to support and create safe spaces for 2SLGBTQ+ students and

WHEREAS Dalhousie University has given space for the Advance Summit with keynote speakers who actively share anti-2SLGBTQ+ rhetoric

BE IT RESOLVED council review and share a letter to be released in solidarity with 2SLGBTQ+ students in our community, condemning Dalhousie’s decision to prioritize a conference booking over student safety.

Mover: LGBTQ Students Community Representative  Seconder: VP Academic and External

Chair – Few things were shared by email. Email exchange between Ivan Joseph and Ruby was there. Meghan also followed up with some thoughts on it.

Hannah – (spoke about the event taking place which was the ‘advance summit’ and the issue surrounding it). Lot of the constituents have been disturbed by it and offended that Dalhousie has allowed this to happen. Hope to release the letter.

Letter was displayed for Council.

Meghan – One of the other speakers is a pastor for deep water church.

Hannah – Concern is significant number of students who attend that church. Doesn’t want the letter to imply that the DSU doesn’t want students gathering to celebrate their religion.

Hannah – DalOUT is posting a counter event. If anyone wants to gather during that time they can attend it.
Fallen – Since somebody from the gazette is here, would you want to coordinate a meeting or discussion with the gazette?
Hannah – Can speak about that after.

Ameir – The University appointed a Vice Provost Equity Diversity and inclusion a few months ago. Now they are allowing this event to happen when it was completely in their purview to do so or choose not to.

Fatima – Before council, they had a roundtable session for the day of remembrance and the vice provost was there. They sympathise with the situation. Dal Security is going to be very tight on the event of the day. Someone pointed out that isn’t that an indication that something is wrong in that case. If we can add something, where we can work with the university to change their policy when it comes to facilities management when it comes to renting spaces out. There could be a clear distinction made in the policy to help dictate and mandate the university.

Calista – Dal has their equity and diversity stance written in their policy. That can be pointed out showing that there are written documents and statements.

Ruby read the letter which is to students and surrounding community.

Ruby – If the letter passes, has everyone’s signature in solidarity with the letter.

Joshua – Can we reach out to Sara so that there is no backlash after?
Ruby – Yes.

**Motion 10.2**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT motion 6.8 be amended to add that the Council puts confidence in the Chair and LGBTQ Representative to take into consideration any further edits and adjust the letter as they see fit.

**Mover:** Faculty of Management Representative  
**(21 – 0)**  
**Motion Carries**

**Motion 10.3**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT motion 6.8 be amended to include: If the conference is not cancelled, the DSU executive issue a letter to Dalhousie University condemning their support of anti-LGBTQ rhetoric.

**Mover:** VP Finance and Operations  
**Seconder:** VP Academic and External

**Motion 10.4**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the letter from the executives mentioned in motion 6.10 come through council and be voted on through email before it is sent to the University.

**Mover:** Faculty of Health Professions Representative  
**Seconder:** Faculty of Management Representative  
**(21 – 0)**  
**Motion Carries**
Motion 10.5

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the letter mentioned in Motion 6.10 include the LGBTQ Community Representative in the writing process.

Mover: VP Finance and Operations  Seconder: VP Academic and External
(21 – 0)
Motion Carries

Motion 10.6

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 6.10 be accepted with the amendments.

(21 – 0)
Motion Carries

Motion 10.7 (Voted on by special resolution)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the draft letter created by the 2SLGBTQ+ Representative and Executive following any amendments made prior to 2 pm, Nov 26, 2019 by members of Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this amended letter be sent to the Board of Governors to be presented at their upcoming meeting at 3 pm on Tuesday, November 26th.

Mover: VPI  Seconder: Indigenous Student Representative
(11 – 2 – 5)
Motion Carries

Motion 10.7

WHEREAS minutes are posted online and meeting recordings are made available upon request

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council meetings are no longer be live streamed to meet the access needs of members of council.

Mover: VP Student Life  Seconder: President

Marian (from the gallery) read a letter.

President – Really appreciate you coming forward with the letter. We do have the recording for students and minutes and councillor emails as well for students. There are also office hours. Council too are students and have accessibility needs. People don’t feel okay with speaking up sometimes when it is plastered online because sometimes challenging white supremacy, homophobia, and other norms in society comes with a little backlash and risk to yourselves. Every councillor should feel comfortable bringing their voice forward. Job of each representative is to represent different parts of the community and bring their voices forward. There are many ways to communicate. Fully support no longer doing video recordings and engaging with the methods present.
Marian – Fully appreciate on elaborating that there are multiple avenues that we can pursue in the interest of accessibility. The main focus here is that these live streams have been incredibly beneficial to get the word out about what the council is doing. Understand that there are issues of hate. Its about getting the word out conveniently and consistently and as fast as possible. Meeting minutes can go up to two weeks and more. Like for the time pressing motion that was just passed, wouldn’t know about it until way after the event. The letter was there, but wouldn’t know the council’s reactions to this, was everybody for it or against it and the issues that were surrounding it.

Aisha – Videos itself may not be the best avenue. Live tweets are something that is there for example. Trying to figure out how to get the message out other than the tweets. There are many different ways that work on student engagement

Fallen – Would the audio recording be made faster than the minutes?
Chair – It could be readily available.

Meghan – Don’t see any conversation happening around accessibility that doesn’t include video. There are many types of learning disabilities and mental disabilities. One of her constituents said they liked the live streams because they can’t read peoples body language through audio recordings or twitter. Our body language is an important tool in how we communicate and we cannot take that away from our constituents if we are an accessible council.

From the gallery – This discussion has been about accessibility of council and what they discuss. Thinks moving to make this in council directly affects the accessibility of council to students. If council moves in-camera, students are longer able to be a part of the discussion of whether students will be allowed to see video streams of council and think that’s forgetting the reason this question is coming up is students want more accessibility and moving in camera eliminates that possibility in that window of time.

Point of Information (Fatima) – Moving in-camera, would it be in camera discussion or in camera voting?
Chair – No in-camera voting will take place.

Isa – In regards to executive and councillor health and wellness, people are not comfortable in disclosing in a session with live tweets and people are not backed with confidentiality of council. People just didn’t want to have those conversations publicly where they are disclosing details up close and personal to their mental health. Would appreciate the opportunity to have that conversation in camera.

**Motion 10.8**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move in-camera for discussion.

Mover: VP Student Life  Seconder: Black Students Community Representative
(11 – 7 – 1)
Motion Carries

Council moved in-camera.

**Motion 10.9**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move out of camera.
Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Law Representative  
(19 – 0)  
Motion Carries

Council moved out of camera.

Motion 10.10

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council extend the meeting for 20 minutes.

Mover: BOG Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  
(19 – 0)  
Motion Carries

Motion 10.11

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move in-camera for discussion.

Mover: LGBTQ Representative  Seconder: VP Student Life  
(18 – 0 – 1)  
Motion Carries

Council moved in-camera.

Motion 10.12

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move out of camera.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: President  
Motion Carries

Council moved out of camera.

Motion 10.13

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council extend the meeting as Chair sees fit.

Motion Carries

Council moved in-camera.

Motion 10.14

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move out of camera.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Dentistry Representative  
(18 – 0)  
Motion Carries
Motion 10.15

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 6.14 be amended to include: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that council investigate alternative avenues of access through the accessibility center to ensure that council meets the access needs of general DSU members by December 4th.

Mover: VP Student Life  Seconder: President  
(17 – 0 - 1)  
Motion Carries

Motion 10.16

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 6.14 be moved with the amendment.

(12 - 2 - 3)  
Motion Carries

Chair announced that rest of the motions be tabled for another meeting due to lack of time.

Motion 10.17

WHEREAS the IIC has yet to received FOIPOP documents;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT life of the Committee and the deadline for the report be extended until January 15, 2020.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: VP Student Life  
(18 – 0)  
Motion Carries

11. Executive Reports

a) President  
b) Vice-President (Internal)  
c) Vice-President (Financial and Operations)  
d) Vice-President (Academic and External)  
e) Vice-President (Student Life)

12. Councillor Reports

a) Faculty of Computer Science Representative  
b) LGBTQ2S Representative  
c) Engineering Representative  
d) Faculty of Agriculture Representative  
e) Faculty of Dentistry Representative
13. Notices of Motion

14. Announcements

15. Adjournment

Motion 15.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council adjourns at 9:49 pm.

Mover: President  Seconder: VP Student Life
(18 – 0)
Motion Carries

Meeting adjourned at: 9:49 pm
Minutes submitted by Secretary: