Council Meeting
November 6, 2019 - 6:00pm - Haley Institute Boardroom, Agriculture Campus

Call to order at 6:31 pm by Chair

1. Roll Call

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillors Present</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aisha Abawajy (she/her) – President</td>
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<td>Ruby Coles (she/her) - Vice President (Student life)</td>
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<td>Calista Hills (she/her) - Vice President (Internal)</td>
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<td>Fatima Beydoun - Board of Governors Representative</td>
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<td>Naomi Bird - Indigenous Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Claudia Castillo-Prentt - Black Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Sara Goswami (she/her)- International Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Hannah Drake - LGTBQ Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Lenka Wicha (she/her) - Faculty of Agriculture Representative</td>
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<td>Fallen Matthew - Faculty of Graduate Students Representative</td>
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<td>Joshua Yusuf (he/him)- Faculty of Health Professions Representative</td>
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<td>Meghan Faught - Faculty of Law Representative</td>
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<td>Ameir Yahia - Faculty of Management Representative</td>
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<td>Bakhmala Khan - Faculty of Science Representative</td>
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<tr>
<th>Councillors Absent With Regrets</th>
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<tr>
<td>Herman Stubeda - Faculty of Medicine Representative</td>
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<td>Shivam Mahajan – Faculty of Computer Science Representative</td>
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<td>Sandra Sunil (she/her) - Residence Students Community Representative</td>
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<th>Councillors Absent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Isa Wright (she/her or they/them) - Vice President (Finance and Operations)</td>
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<td>Julia Sarty - Faculty of Engineering Representative</td>
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<td>Ryan Callahan - Faculty of Dentistry Representative</td>
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<th>Others Present</th>
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<td>Charity Justrabo - Chair</td>
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<td>Kranthi Kiran Jalakam - Secretary</td>
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2. Land Acknowledgment

3. Adoption of the Agenda

   Motion 3.1
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.
   Mover: Faculty of Graduate Students Representative Seconder: Board of Governors Representative

   Motion 3.2
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to include the motion: Be It Resolved That Carmen Hum be appointed to the Budget and Finance Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.
   Mover: President Seconder: VP Student Life

   Motion Carries

   Motion 3.3
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to include the motion: Be It Resolved That Zakariya Chatur be appointed to the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.
   Mover: Faculty of Law Representative Seconder: VP Student Life

   Motion Carries

   Motion 3.4
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to include discussions on DSU Transparency, Proposition for Truro Liaison and Social Media and Communications amendments and enforcement under New Business.
   Mover: Faculty of Graduate Students Representative Seconder: LGBTQ Representative

   Motion Carries

   Motion 3.5
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be amended with the amendments that were brought forward
   (14 – 0)

   Motion Carries

   Motion 3.6
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as amended and circulated.
   (14 – 0)

   Motion Carries

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

   Motion 4.1
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the October 23rd meeting be accepted as circulated.
   Mover: VP Student Life Seconder: International Students Representative
   (14 – 0)

   Motion Carries
5. **Communications Received**

Shivam Mahajan (Faculty of Computer Science Representative) sends his regrets.

Herman Stubeda (Faculty of Medicine Representative) sends his regrets.

Sandra Sunil (Residence Community Representative) sends her regrets.

President received communication of the resignation of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative, Hasan, effective October 31st and will no longer be VP Academic and External (Interim).

6. **Appointments**

Motion 6.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT three appointments be voted upon in omnibus.

**Mover:** Faculty of Health Professions Representative  **Seconder:** VP Student Life

(13 – 0 - 1)

**Motion Carries**

a. External Committee and Student Life Committee

**Motion 6.1.1**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Shivam Mahajan be appointed to the External Committee and the Student Life Committee for the 2019-2020 academic year.

b. Bylaw and Policy Review Committee

**Motion 6.1.3**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Zakariya Chatur be appointed to the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.

c. Budget and Finance Committee

**Motion 6.1.2**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Carmen Hum be appointed to the Budget and Finance Committee for the 2019 – 2020 academic year.

7. **Presentations**

a. There are no presentations.

8. **Committee Reports**

Joshua (on behalf of the Internal Investigation Committee) – If any councillor would like to endorse someone in their community position, they can let him know and an interview can take place. He requires this in writing.

Studley student position and one faculty position is filled. Joshua is the chair. Lenka accepted the invitation to sit on the committee.

Ruby (VP Student Life) – Students who were involved with slander online, will that be revealed in the interview process? Will it be taken into consideration?

Joshua – It will. Any concerns about certain people could be brought forward as well. Wouldn't be willing to accept anyone into the committee who has spoken inappropriately against any members of the council.
Aisha (President) – Is the oversight committee a place where slander towards the members can be put forward?

Joshua – They could be brought forward. Every student at Dal holds onto the Student code of conduct. If they are acting inappropriately towards the members, there are processes that he would also be able to assist on as well, in bringing forward. Oversight committee would be willing to store information on such issues.

Joshua – One community position, faculty position, sexton position and carleton position are vacant.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

Motion 10.1
WHEREAS the time to run a by-election has passed;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following timeline be adopted for appointment of unfilled Council positions and that the Oversight Committee host two sessions for students to present as potential candidates:

• November 10th (at the latest): communication to students regarding appointment process
• November 14th - 17th: two presentation sessions hosted by Oversight Committee
• November 20th: Oversight Committee recommendations presented at Council and Council moves to vote on the appointments.

Moved by: Faculty of Health Professions Seconder: Faculty of Law Representative

Motion 10.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 10.1 be amended to change the dates of the presentation sessions from the 14th and 17th to the 12th and 15th instead.

Mover: Faculty of Health Professions Representative Seconder: Faculty of Graduate Students Representative

(14 – 0)

Motion Carries

Aisha – On the 20th, how will the candidates be presenting to council?

Joshua – Selected candidates from the interview process will present to council and council will vote on them.

Naomi (Indigenous Students Community Rep) – Will there be a livestream for students who aren’t present due to reading week?

Joshua- The open sessions won’t be but the council meeting where the council votes on the candidates will be.

Meghan (Faculty of Law Rep) – How many positions are going to be presented to council?

Joshua – 4

Motion 10.3
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 10.1 be accepted with the amendment.

(13 – 0)

Motion Carries
a) DSU Transparency

Fallen (FGS Rep) – Reached out to several people via DSU comments to meet with her at DAGS if they had questions which included graduate and undergraduate concerns and was able allay a number of concerns. The primary concern they identified was the lack of transparency with the DSU. They would like the DSU to be transparent about earnings, structural changes in terms of fees in the wake of CFS membership, staff being able to engage with them beyond office hours were some of the concerns. Suggested a lunch and learn weekly or biweekly, like on the Truro campus to be able to address more students and facilitate transparency.

Aisha – They are looking for ways to further reach out to students. Students have been reaching out via social media. Trying to figure out what the best process is and addressing the concerns of students is being looked into.

The DSU Snapchat is a possible place that she has been working on, where students can have their questions answered. Had a conversation with Dal Gazette, looking for a possibility for the DSU to have a segment on the podcast to talk about questions that students have.

b) Truro Liaison

Fallen – Lenka is doing a good job for Truro. She is the president of DASA as well. Lenka has a lot of workload to deal with. Disproportionate for her to have to come to Halifax and deal with all the other work in addition to dealing with DASA. DASA has regular council meetings too. There should be some reciprocity from the DSU or anybody on council who would be willing to attend some of the DASA meetings to understand what’s happening and get feedback. Truro is far away and it might be fruitful if some DSU members were more actively involved in the Truro campus.

Lenka (Faculty of Agriculture Rep) – She is the president of DASA but doesn’t sit on this council in any capacity as DASA but a regular student representing all the students of the Faculty of Agriculture. Anybody on campus can sit in that position. The DASA council meetings are open to anyone. Open to having other people there.

Fallen – There are valid concerns from the Truro community for not being as involved in the Main campus. DSU or someone on council should try to attend council meeting or facilitate something in terms of having Truro more amplified in addition to Lenka. It’s a lot of responsibility for one person.

Lenka – Has reached out to get the executives to come down to Truro and they should be coming down at some point after the break.

Aisha – Has been working with Lenka to figure out a way to get to the Truro campus. Students in Truro don’t necessarily have the same needs as the students on the other campus and she is looking to support the work that DASA is doing and providing support.

Fallen – Having an executive in the gallery of those meetings can convey the concerns that could benefit from the councils collaboration.

c) Social media and communications policy amendment and enforcement

Fallen – Councillors should be mindful that there are DSU social media and communication policies. In the wake of inflammatory, malicious slanderous and unfounded allegations made on the DSU page and against the council at large on the page, people should be aware of the consequences of violations of said policies. Students should convey their concerns and questions through their constituent representatives or relevant staff. Concerns and questions will definitely be heard and considered and if not allayed.
Will be looking into amending the policies and making them more specific for immediate action and effective moderation of the Facebook page as the current DSU policy isn’t really expansive.

Meghan – It would be a great work for the BRPC to work on in terms of policy.

Aisha – Harassment online has been an issue that is observed on Dal campus as well as campuses across the country. Spreading rumours is malicious and harmful. Could affect a lot of aspects of one’s life. It is an important issue to deal with.

Fatima (BOG Rep) – How to go about someone crossing the line of inappropriateness?

Fallen – She has been looking into it lately. One of the possible courses of action is taking it up with Human Resources if it concerns a Dalhousie employee. Even though the Dalhousie Student Union is separate from the University, being students means that our welfare is a priority and if there is personal harassment it can be brought to their attention. The individuals involved in perpetrating that can be penalised or judged at the discretion of the institution. In terms of DSU moderation, its at the discretion of DSU in terms of Social media and communications policy in regards to how they moderate their social media. If there are specific complaints, they can be brought to the full time staff, specifically with the comments in reference to how it violates policy. Would be willing to help anyone escalate their complaints.

Fallen – If someone on the DSU page makes a slanderous comment and then deletes it, what happens if a screenshot is taken and brought to attention and talk about how it violates policy?

Calista (VP Internal) – Based on the Social media and communications policy, the online code of conduct under the DSU, if someone writes a comment that can be considered discriminatory harassment, there can be grounds for temporarily or permanently barred from posting on DSU social media. As of now, there doesn’t seem to be an official process.

Fallen – If users end up being blocked, are they entitled to be notified?

Calista – Policy doesn’t specify that.

Motion 10.4

BE IT RESOLVED THAT by Wednesday, November the 14th, council will release public statement to members that conduct has reached a threshold on social media that will no longer be tolerated and people will be removed from DSU social media as per the online Code of Conduct.

Mover – Faculty of Health Professions Representative  Seconder: LGBTQ Representative

Ameir (Faculty of Management Rep) – It might send out the wrong message. It could be curated by the end of the week to address the concerns that everybody has mentioned and then release it.

Fatima – Agrees that it could potentially be viewed as a suppression of freedom of speech. This seems to extend beyond the DSU page as well. Reminder of the Student code of conduct could be given out and if there still seems to be issues, then a statement could be made perhaps?

Motion 10.5
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 10.4 be amended to say DSU Council address the online harassment and cyber bullying taking place and all DSU affiliated social media in adherence to DSU anti oppressive mandate

**Mover: President  Seconder: LGTBQ Representative**

Claudia (Black Students Community Rep) – Some comments are made by students who work for the university as well. Would they fall under the code of conduct for students or Dalhousie employees?

Joshua – It would fall under the employee code of conduct as well as the student code of conduct.

Calista – Under DSU policy and communications, DSU staff have to follow the same rules as students in terms of harassment, indiscriminatory comments. They can't speak negatively about councillors, DSU etc during their shift but outside of that would be the case as it is for a general member.

Lenka – If it is set up to take student questions, will their questions actually be answered?

Calista – Currently certain things are outlined in the policy but in terms of creating a system for moderating harmful comments, there is a need to ensure that people asking questions in good faith, for which there needs to be accountability pieces for the DSU getting back to people in a timely manner and answering their questions.

Aisha – So many things to deal with surrounding communication. Too much content to filter through and respond to. Right now policy says every single comment needs to be responded to. Hence the generic comments are there. If staff has to respond to every single comment, they cannot attend to the important matters.

Lenka – It's difficult for the Truro students to come meet in person if they are not being answered on social media and email.

Aisha – Lenka as the rep for those students could bring forward their questions. Lot of the questions should and can be answered.

Fallen – Lunch and Learn would be a good avenue to facilitate that. It is important to be more involved with the Truro campus. Does social media policy affect alumni as well?

Chair – If it is on the DSU page, there is power over that specific space.

Joshua – If there is a breach of Student code of conduct, can take it to Ivan Joseph. If it is a breach of DSU's code of conduct, need to take it up with the supervisors and higher ups.

**Motion 10.5**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the motion 10.3 and the amendment be tabled to the next council meeting.

**Mover: Faculty of Management Representative  Seconder: International Students Community Representative**

(13 – 1).

**Motion Carries**

Fallen – What can be done immediately to articulate the hate comments and slander?
Joshua – Bringing that up to the oversight committee to document it.

11. Executive Reports
   a) President
      Lenka – Bylaw states report has to be done within two weeks. So is this a bylaw breach?
      Fallen – Is that bylaw still in consideration if there are unforeseen circumstances?
      Chair read Bylaw 7.7.a)
      Fatima – Referring to Bylaw 5.9.d), would staff having an emergency also fit under this?
      Aisha – That does pertain to executives and their ability to do things.
      Lenka – Would the controller also have the information?
      Aisha – Yes.

Point of Information (BOG Rep) – Could you say what the controller is?
Aisha – Controller is the head of the accounting team.

Motion 11.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Controller (finance manager) remit all available financial information of the Grawood and T-room, as of the date of the original motion, to the Chair of Council. The Chair may then provide that to the council as a whole. Should there be unavailable data, the controller should provide an adequate explanation.

Mover: Faculty of Agriculture Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Law Representative

Point of Information (President) – What is Council’s role around directing the staff?
Meghan (Faculty of Law Representative) – Her hypothesis is that Council would be able to request it but there will be no guarantee that it will be followed through with but that the original motion will be followed through with.

Point of Order (Fallen): Asked Lenka if she would want to amend the motion or table the motion?

Motion 11.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT that Motion 11.1 be amended to say “Council request for the controller to remit all available financial information of the Grawood and T-room, as of the date of the original motion, to the Chair of Council. The Chair may then provide that to the Council as a whole. Should there be unavailable data, the controller should provide an adequate explanation.”

Mover: Faculty of Law Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Health Professions Representative
(12 – 0 – 2)

Motion Carries

Amended Motion 11.1
(9 – 1 – 3). Abstention – BOG Representative

Motion Carries

Motion 11.2
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council take a 5 minute recess.
Mover: Faculty of Law Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Health Professions Representative
(10 – 3 – 1)
Motion Carries
b) Vice-President (Internal)
c) Vice-President (Financial and Operations)
d) Vice-President (Academic and External)
e) Vice-President (Student Life)
Meghan – About the compensation for the grawood staff, any sort of timeline on that?
Aisha – Meeting with Ivan Joseph the following day and talk about all the concerns including that as well. Can give an update about that next meeting.
Calista – To her knowledge, staff has been compensated on lost tips.

f) Councillor Reports
   a) LGBTQ Community Representative
      Report will be submitted at the next council meeting.

   b) Faculty of Management Representative

   c) Faculty of Science Representative

   d) International Students Community Representative
      Report will be circulated later.

g) Notices of Motion

h) Announcements
Chair – AGM is coming up on the 29th. No proposed bylaw amendments from this year but there are bylaw amendments that have accrued over the last couple of years in which council did not make quorum. If the councillors can rally their constituents, hopefully quorum can be made and hence pass the bylaw amendments.

If quorum is not made, things will continue the way it is and next year the same situation will have to be revisited.

If quorum is made and the bylaw amendments are voted on, it will be a pass failed scenario. If it passed, then the bylaw amendment goes forward and if it fails, bylaws from 2016 are reverted to.

Fallen – Would Truro students be able to attend that or would transport be facilitated for the Truro students?
Lenka – It can be looked into.

Fallen – Would DSU be willing to share some of the expenses?
Calista – People can vote from distance. People on agriculture campus might be able to video call in and then vote on motions presented at the AGM.
Lenka – Asked if she can facilitate it from Truro or does she have to be there in person?
Chair – Lenka don’t have to be there in person as she would be with her constituents in Truro.

i) Adjournment

Motion 15.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council adjourns at 8:59 pm.
Mover: Faculty of Science Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Graduate Students Representative
Motion Carries

| Meeting adjourned at: 8:59 pm |
| Minutes submitted by Secretary: |