



VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC & EXTERNAL

Report to DSU Council for Wednesday October 26th, 2016

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Office Hours: Tuesday 11am-2pm and Wednesday 2pm-4pm

INTERNAL

- Executive meetings twice a week
- Weekly meetings with Communications and Outreach Coordinator, Sarah, and Graphic Designer and Campaigns Manager, Emily (and now transitioning into Jonathan).
- Regular meetings with Masuma and Micheal from the Equity and Accessibility Office
- Completed the hiring process for a new Policy and Research Coordinator.
- Met multiple times with the phone line working group to prepare for the Strategy Session on Survivor Support on Campus.
- On September 28th all the executive participated in a staff Open Space led by Kathleen and our General Manager, Craig. The open space was open to full-time and part-time staff and discussions included: the grand opening of the SUB, survivor support on campus, and better communication tools and strategies.
- Attended the DAGS AGM on October 3rd.
- We held our Annual General Meeting on October 13th but was unable to reach quorum. We went ahead with presentations of financial statements, by Dylan, survivor support on campus, Rhiannon and I, and general updates from the executives.
- On October 12, Sarah, Communications and Outreach Coordinator and myself met with Dalhousie Agriculture Student Association President to discuss how to best engage Agriculture students in the National Day of Action.

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Senate

- Attended Senate Meeting on September 26 along with the majority of the Interim Senate Caucus.
- Attended Senate Planning and Governance Committee Meeting on October 19th with Kathleen. I presented a motion for academic amnesty on the National Student Day of Action which will be presented to Senate on October 24th.

Other

- Attended convocation as part of the Academic Procession on October 5th.



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- Ratification meeting with Bob, Discipline and Appeals Manager, and Katherine, Senate Vice Chair (Student Affairs), on October 11th to ratify Academic Integrity cases.

ADVOCACY

- Dalhousie Student Union partnered with the Canadian Federation of Students to bring the Generation Vote Campaign which highlighted 5 issues that are important to students: affordable housing, arts and culture, fair wages, food security, and public transportation. We engaged with students on all Halifax campuses through tabling and social media. We hosted a Candidates Fair and Mayoral Debate on September 28th. For those who missed it, check out our live stream on YouTube. We also set up voting booths in high traffic areas with iPads to ensure that students knew if they were eligible to vote, registered to receive a pin, and voting in the advanced polls.
- On September 29, we joined students across the HRM in a regional banner drop at the ferry terminal (Halifax-side). We also handed out materials to passerbys and media was onsite.
- We collaborated with the Canadian Federation of Students to host Consent Culture Forum which took place in the SUB on October 1st and 2nd. It brought together 100 students from across the province to discuss a provincial vision for combatting rape culture on our campuses.
- External Action Committee meetings are now happening weekly every Thursday 4-5pm in anticipation of the National Day of Action. The committee has been brainstorming, planning, and executing lead up actions (see upcoming section below).
- We've been meeting with students across the region who are participating in the National Day of Action every Monday to provide updates on what our individual campuses are doing and to collaborate on regional actions.
- We held two Strategy Sessions for Survivor Support on September 27th and October 6th.
- We participated in a chalking action on October 13th with other universities in the province. We chalked messages on accessible postsecondary education all around Province House right before the thrown's speech.
- Met with students and senators interested in creating a mandatory Indigenous class requirement. I reached out to students in the Manitoba Students Union who were integral in making that a reality at their university. Next steps include creating a committee, reaching out for endorsements, and bringing our recommendations to Senate.
- Tabling every Thursday alternating throughout the campuses.
- Noodles at Noon took place on October 19 which happened on both Studley and Sexton Campus as well as at Kings. We gave out hundreds of noodles to highlight the burden of tuition fee costs



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and how it contributes to student food insecurity as well as letting students know about the upcoming National Day of Action. Media was present - check out this article in the Metro:

<http://www.metronews.ca/news/halifax/2016/10/19/free-noodles-at-noon-draws-attention-to-student-debt.html>

- Dalhousie Student Union, along with other provincial advocacy bodies, met on October 18th with government officials to advocate on students behalf. We voiced the need to remove barriers for accessing postsecondary education, the need for better support on campus, and ended with a presentation on the role of government in ensuring safer campuses.
- Dalhousie students are joining students from across the country in taking to the streets on November 2nd to demand accessible post-secondary education for all. We're demanding from our provincial and federal government to: eliminate tuition fees, grants not loans, increase government funding, better support for Indigenous learners, and safer campuses. We'll be hosting a feeder rally here on campus, before marching to Victoria Park where we will be joined with students from other Universities and Colleges across Halifax, and then marching to Province House. If you believe in free education for all, join us on November 2nd and make your voice heard!

SERVICES

DSAS

- Volunteer training on October 1st and 2nd was successful with training 50 volunteers - the largest training in DSAS history.
- DSAS is experiencing difficulties with the budget because the budget we inherited did not take into account the added cost of expanding DSAS's mandate. Dylan and I are working closely with Kym, DSAS Executive Director, to find ways to alleviate some of those difficulties and will be meeting with Kym about next steps.

UPCOMING

- Chalking campuses on October 24 and 31 11am-2pm
- Regional Planning Meeting October 24 6-7:30pm
- Material Making and Another Noodle Action on October 25th on Sexton 11am-2pm
- Tabling, chalking, and material making in Truro October 26 11am-4:30pm
- Tuition Trivia October 26 7-9pm in the Grawood
- Fight the Fees: Lunch and Learn October 27th from 1-2pm in the Atrium



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- No More Tuition - Hike October 28 at 3:20pm (also a spooky theme + candy)
- Tuition Fees are Spooky Open Mic October 28 7pm-12am in the Grawood
- #ALLOUT Hype Day (Halloween Edition) October 31 11am-4pm
- Pickets and Pizza November 1st
- ALL OUT NOVEMBER 2ND!!!!