

DSS Proposed Constitutional Amendments - Winter 2020

Motion A

Whereas a Constitution should be clear and concise to facilitate communication of information,

And whereas Article 1.c and Article 1.f does not accomplish this,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 1.c read “Committee – a group of Members appointed to carry out a specific interest or objective of the Society”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Article 1.f read “Councillor - A Member who is elected as a representative on the Dalhousie Science Society Council.”

Motion B

Whereas the Constitution makes no mention that membership is not by sexuality.

BE It RESOLVED THAT Article 3.3 read “Membership in the Society is not limited by age, gender, race, religion, or sexuality.”

Motion C

Whereas the term “Executive” is referred to as all executives’ multiple times throughout the Constitution;

And whereas Article 1.o does not clarify this;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 1.o read “Executive – an Executive of the Society including the President, Vice-President, Vice-President of Finance, Director of Communications, Director of Marketing and Public Relations and Chair. This may also refer to the body of executive members as a whole.”

Motion D

Whereas all responsibilities and duties of the Environmental Affairs Rep is not reflected in the Constitution ;

And whereas one of the roles of the Environmental Affairs Rep is to inform Council members of local environmental issues;

And whereas several council members and science students interact via social media accounts including Instagram;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 5.3.f.iii be created and read “Responsible for overseeing and running the Dss_environment instagram account.”

Motion E

Whereas the responsibilities of the Professional Development Rep are not clearly defined;

And whereas one of the roles of the Professional Development Rep is to assist with fostering students’ development of career planning and professional skills;

And whereas the Peer Mentorship Program was established to assist first and second year students to connect with upper year students to gain insight to classes, undergraduate journey, and professional and career interests;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 5.3.h.iv be created and read “Assist with the recruitment, training and execution of the Peer Mentorship Program.”

Motion F

Whereas the Constitution makes no mention of the timeline of the notice of elections and nomination process;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 7.2.c be created and read “Notice of elections and nomination process be provided to members at least two weeks in advance.”

Motion G

Whereas the process of the election of the DSU Science Rep is different;

And whereas the position is run in the DSU election in the Winter semester;

And whereas the Constitution has no mention of the process of election if no candidate runs in the DSU election;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 7.6.b be created and read “If there are no candidates running for the DSU Science Rep position in the DSU General Election, the position shall be elected at the Winter Annual General Meeting of that academic year.”

Motion H

Whereas the notice of Council Meeting must be distributed to Council at least seven (7) days in advance;

And whereas the agenda for all Council Meetings must be circulated to the Council no later than twenty four (24) hours before the Meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 9.3.c read “Notice of a Council Meeting must be distributed to Council at least forty eight (48) hours in advance via email to Councilors and through posts on social media by the Director of Marketing and Public Relations (as per Article 6.9).”

Motion I

Whereas a Constitution should be clean and concise to facilitate communication of information;

And whereas the Constitution does not clarify who a member is under the Finance and Grants Committee Discipline;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 10.5.a read “If a D-level President or Treasurer of the Finance and Grants Committee is unable to attend a meeting, a proxy from that D-level society may be sent in their place.”

Motion J

Whereas the Constitution has no mention of the conduct of departmental societies;

And whereas the Dalhousie Science Society is to provide a resource base for departmental societies within the Faculty of Science in terms of information;

And whereas the Dalhousie Science Society strives to create an inclusive and safe environment for all students;

And whereas Departmental societies currently have varying processes for impeachment of members holding position in their society;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 13 called society regulations be implemented in the Constitution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Article 13.1 regarding impeachment be created and read as follows:

13.1 Anyone attempting to impeach a D-level society executive member or member holding any other position must:

- a. Notify the individual that they are not fulfilling their responsibilities;
- b. Have a discussion with the individual in question regarding their performance of duties;
 - i. The individual may choose to have another party present;
- c. Provide at least one warning to the individual in question prior to commencing impeachment procedures;
- d. Allow the individual or a representative of the individual to provide an explanation to the society members as to why they have not fulfilled their responsibilities during the impeachment meeting;
- e. Have an impartial individual act as chair during the meeting in which impeachment voting occurs;
- f. The impartial chair shall not have a vote and will count all closed-eye votes for the impeachment procedure.