

## **Dalhousie Science Society Council Meeting**

6th December, 2021, 7-9pm

Student Union Building-307 (3rd floor)

Chair: Linh Tran

The Dalhousie Science Society acknowledges that Dalhousie University and the Dalhousie Student Union Building are located on traditional, unceded and unsundered Mi'kma'ki territory. The Dalhousie Science Society seeks to honour the relational treaty process in its programming, events, and meetings.

- 1. Roll Call;**
- 2. Acceptance of the agenda;**
  - a. Motion by Carmen**
  - b. Approved**
- 3. Acceptance of the minutes;**
  - a. Motion by Thomas**
  - b. Approved**
- 4. Appointments;**
  - a. Appointments to committees
    - i. Interest in Committees at the Research Mixer
    - ii. Ava for STEM outreach committee
      - motion to approve
      - all in favour - approved
    - iii. Space on the Curriculum Committee
      - Naomi is nominated by Carmen
      - seconded
      - all in favour - approved
    - iv. Ava is on STEM outreach committee, Naomi is on the Curriculum Committee
- 5. Business of the Executive;**
  - a. President's report
    - i. Regular business
    - ii. Attended PEO training
    - iii. Attended faculty council meeting
      1. New program for first year Truro on campus
      2. Coordinate with international center
    - iv. Attended DSS and Faculty events
    - v. Helped transfer signing authority and sign cheques
    - vi. Attended course rep coordinator meeting
    - vii. Met with Julianna for Enviro Affairs
    - viii. Met with prospective members
    - ix. Helped coordinate exec review
    - x. Looked into scholarship program
    - xi. Started researching speakers for Symposium that hire students
    - xii. Ordered pizza
  - b. Vice President's report

- i. Attended DSS events
  - ii. Reached out to speakers from research mixer
  - iii. Advocacy meetings
    - 1. Going to look at additional funding
  - iv. Office hours
  - v. Ran research mixer
  - vi. Contacted international student center
- c. Director of Student Life
  - i. Reviewed turnover documents
  - ii. Attended primary event organizer training (POI)
  - iii. Attended executive meetings
  - iv. Attended first year committee meetings
  - v. Set and attended office hours
  - vi. Planned and hosted trivia night
  - vii. Sent email about prizes
- d. Director of Finance's report
  - i. Submitted fall audit
  - ii. Attended DSU treasurer training
  - iii. Hosted F&G meeting
    - 1. Approved 1 new grant and 1 tabled grant
    - 2. Provided D level audit
  - iv. Attended DSS events
  - v. Transferred signing authority
  - vi. Reissued winter 21 disbursements
  - vii. Office hours
  - viii. Issued reimbursements for budgeted expenses
  - ix. Beginning to prepare winter audit
- e. Director of Communication's report
- f. Director of Marketing's report
  - i. Attended DSS events
    - 1. Research mixer
  - ii. Attended faculty events
    - 1. Open house, women in STEM, Dean's office meeting
  - iii. Regular business
  - iv. Updated website: agendas and minutes, exec intros
  - v. Made DSS council teams group
  - vi. Attended advocacy committee meeting
  - vii. App of the week, spotify playlists, filmed video with Linh
  - viii. Was in contact with Red Bull rep
- g. Chairperson's Report
  - i. Held office hours
  - ii. Attended exec meetings
  - iii. Attended DSS and faculty events
  - iv. Dss tiktok
  - v. Mindsmatter mental health campaign
    - 1. Apps of the week for November and December
    - 2. Study playlist
    - 3. Designed playlists profile picture

4. Filmed video with Joyce
5. Editing video

## 6. New Business;

- a. Executive Review
- b. Debrief on Research Mixer
  - lots of positive feedback
  - students would like another similar event closer to when professors are looking for students for summer research
  - mixer went on a little long and some profs had to leave and couldnt stay until the end
  - could have two sessions (profs present and then mix, and then the second set of profs present and then mix)
  - profs wont be as eager to leave
  - could do sessions based on subject
  - eg biology, chem, psych things together
- i. Future Research Mixer
  1. Looking at a second researcher mixer in March
  2. Get a couple of speakers that were well-recieved at this second Mixer
  3. Could do it earlier in March due to finals
  4. Could have research mixer associated with gala on the same day
- ii. Improve Symposium
  1. Research mixer was successful
  2. Profs are actually taking on students
  3. Good for networking
  4. Want to take these lessons and apply to Symposium
  5. Previously, been hearing about other peoples experience
  6. Could focus more on having speakers from companies that will actually hire students afterwards
  7. Symposium in person on a Sat and Sun
- c. Scholarships
  - i. Funding structure
    1. A certain percentage of DSS allocated to grants (personal and conference)
    2. Every year we have money left over - no plans to use the money in the bank account
    3. Could limit the amount that goes into bank account from grant money - dedicated to go to students
    4. Took all the extra money from the prior year and created scholarships with it (1600 last year)
    5. Could divide into \$200 scholarships, etc
    6. Could do smaller ones and have more
    7. Will be different amounts left over every year, could have smaller ones where we can change the number per year but not change the amounts

- ii. Criteria brainstorm
  - 1. Could have scholarships for different purposes
    - a. Housing, merit, etc
  - 2. Do not make it GPA based
  - 3. Merit could be more community involvement, not academic achievement as there are already lots for that way
  - 4. Could be more for those who need it- more inclusive
  - 5. Housing effects a lot of other things
    - a. Groceries, etc
  - 6. To what extent can we ask for information to assess needs
    - a. How to decide who is more deserving
  - 7. Have a need be requirement but not be what is measured
  - 8. Need as a blanket requirement, then have a criteria to decide
  - 9. Could have a survey to determine need, if you meet the need then put in a raffle
  - 10. Could also do a longer essay, people can elaborate on it, but that takes time for people to write and judge
  - 11. Could do two types of scholarships
  - 12. Eg list top 3 financial insecurities you have
  - 13. Dont punish people for working part time
  - 14. What questions can we ask people
    - a. Questions that would not indicate to the people reviewing who applied
    - b. Could have it based on B00 number
    - c. One person on committee could scrub applications - clears out any mention of name or anything identifying, but then they do not judge anything
  - 15. If it is need based, could also be a bursary
  - 16. Is the DSS the most informed group to make these decisions - make sure all voices are heard
  - 17. Making application - Rahelle Biscancruz from Student Wellness Center
    - a. Has been involved in these types of survey
- d. End of year Gala ideas
  - i. Other faculties have galas, dont have that for all of science
  - ii. Could invite profs, talk to them in a more relaxed settings
  - iii. Can meet people in other societies
  - iv. Can work with D Levels
  - v. D Level reps can communicate with societies to see if they were already planning on a gala, and if they want to collaborate
  - vi. DAPS does a charity gala
    - 1. Pay for a ticket and then donate it

- 2. A good idea
- vii. How many people, how big of a room could we have
  - 1. Could have a hotel/conference room
- viii. Dont want to organize something else if it is better to have in the departments
  - 1. But instead we could pool resources and have something really big and have a larger budget
  - 2. Have a bigger group thing
  - 3. Hotel ball room
- ix. DABS was planning on a gala and could collaborate
- x. Concern: POE apply off campus as well
  - 1. Each exec from the D Level should have one
  - 2. Check all requirements for events
- xi. Can check in with nursing gala and see what they did
- xii. Can reach out to Dean's Office, could coordinate through them, Faculty Gala
- xiii. Dean's List Gala at the end of the year being looked at by Faculty
- xiv. Every year we could choose a new organization (or a few) to fund
- e. Intramurals
  - i. Thinking of doing volley ball
    - 1. Beta blockers
    - 2. Protein spikers / spike proteins
  - ii. Could also do a soccer team or a basketball team
  - iii. Can reach out to D Levels, see if there are students wanting to join a team
- f. Social media takeovers
  - i. Previously had social media takeovers from alumni, 4th year honours students
  - ii. Can reach out to Deans Office Alumni Coordinator
  - iii. Can see what a day in the life of different paths would be like, what different Alumnis have done with their groups
  - iv. Would be nice to see more events with connection between Alumns, Faculty, current students
    - 1. Can look at LinkedIn
    - 2. Can talk to Alumni Officer and look at further alumni events
  - v. A facebook group or an instagram account about what alumni are doing in their work, their lives
  - vi. Voices of STEM also has a lot of alumni, would be a good resource
  - vii. Med students, dentistry, pharmacy, oceanographers, would be nice to see more from those niche majors
  - viii. A lot of existing resources for med students, etc, could have a lot more non traditional, niche careers
  - ix. Women in STEM society has weekly postings about dal alumni and what they do for work, could look at that

- x. Alumni - important to have someone that represents each society, could invite alumni to the gala as well, would be nice if people could interact with them
- xi. Focus on more niche topics
  - 1. Look at grad students
  - 2. Could get grad students from different departments
- xii. Alumni and grad students have a lot of requests to speak at events, etc, do we want to limit the amount of requests we put on them
  - 1. Still important to connect
- xiii. A lot of people are either definitely medicine or have no idea what they want to do in science
  - 1. Would be good to be exposed to more niche options and degrees
- xiv. A lot of people are looking for a professional mentor
  - 1. Instagram takeovers are a good resource
  - 2. But, it is also good to connect with mentors
- xv. mentor ship platform by Deepsense
  - 1. You just pick whoever you think is interesting and can meet them
  - 2. Mentor Clty is the program
- xvi. Professional mentors is good to be organized within D Levels

## 7. Reports from the D-Societies and Standing Committees;

- a. Finance & Grants
  - i. Meeting on Nov 15th
  - ii. Provided updates for all D Level societies on audits
  - iii. Waiting on 3 more audits
  - iv. Approved one tabled grant and one new grant
  - v. Spread words to D Levels about applying for grants
    - 1. Changing the grants
    - 2. More for attending conferences
    - 3. Travel expenses, hotel expenses
    - 4. Not getting many applications
- b. Environmental Affairs
  - i. Meeting about activities they could do
  - ii. Walk to the waterfront this Sunday
  - iii. Planning a banquet
- c. Curriculum Committee
  - i. Had a meeting
  - ii. Confirmed that there were 2 new certificates approved
    - 1. **Could highlight them closer to source selection**
  - iii. Course code change
- d. First Year Rep
  - i. Posting on social media
  - ii. Hot chocolate social
  - iii. Made christmas cards
  - iv. Had a good turn out

- e. DABS
  - i. Talked about the seaside info session
  - ii. Talked about doing a banquet
    - 1. Could incorporate into gala
  - iii. Doing a holiday countdown with facts on instagram
- f. DAMS
  - i. Did a new logo contest
  - ii. Photo contest
  - iii. Sea side info session
  - iv. Movie event
  - v. Honours panel
  - vi. Bake sale
- g. DAPS
  - i. Intramural volleyball team
  - ii. Logo for clothes, going to do a clothing order
  - iii. Movie night
  - iv. Board game night
  - v. Planning a gala with UNS
- h. DBSS
  - i. Going to do a clothing order
  - ii. Trivia night a few weeks ago
  - iii. Brainstorming for fundraising, intramurals for next semester
- i. DISS
- j. DUPS
  - i. ginger bread house event
  - ii. Seminar with a grad student
  - iii. Planning winter events
  - iv. Skiing
  - v. A new merch design
  - vi. Career day planning
- k. DUESA
  - i. Delivered by Carmen
  - ii. Games night at the Graywood
  - iii. Hosting an exam review session for first year class
- l. DUMASS
  - i. Clothing order
  - ii. Surprise event in the chase building
  - iii. Bring your own mug and get coffee
  - iv. Planning a back to school event
    - 1. Trivia or bingo night
  - v.
- m. DOUGS
  - i. Hosting study sessions
  - ii. Planning for a winter social event
  - iii.
- n. DUUCS
  - i.

- o. Dawson
  - i. Clothing order came in
  - ii. Planning a movie night
- p. EPSS
- q. SIMS
- r. MSSDU
  - i. Professional night
  - ii. Jingle mingle
  - iii. New clothing items
- s. UNS
  - i. Honours seminar
  - ii. Event on March 10th
  - iii. Planning charity gala on March 26th
  - iv. Doing neurojournal clubs
  - v. Running a psych neuro study hall room
- t. DSU Rep
  - i. SUB open until 2 am from Dec 6th to the 10th
  - ii. Serving free breakfast at 11pm tonight
  - iii. Appointed some new councilors and reps
  - iv. No longer member of Canadian Federal Student
- u. Equity Rep
  - i. Snag with housing bursary
  - ii. Waiting for other application to come in
  - iii. Contacted Rahelle - interested in doing housing workshops

**8. Announcements and Question Period;**

- a. **End of each semester - doing a draw for students that have attended our events**
  - i. **Student will get 20**
  - ii. **Society will get 200**
- b. **Doing the draw this week**

**9. Notices of Motion;**

**10. Adjournment**

- a. **adjourned**