

## Dalhousie Science Society Council Meeting

March 14, 2022 7-9pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81578023787?pwd=ZnBDN09FU3ZWVk1hYnlINSXVPS0Uvdz09>

Chair: Linh Tran

The Dalhousie Science Society acknowledges that Dalhousie University and the Dalhousie Student Union Building are located on traditional, unceded and unsurrendered 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;**
- 3. Acceptance of the minutes;**
- 4. Appointments;**
- 5. New Business;**
  - a. Student supports for next year
    - i. Review for midterms and finals
    - ii. More social events between profs and students
      1. Make it less of a tense relationship
      2. Connect students and profs better
    - iii. They want to meet with some of the exec but wanted to get information from the council meeting
      1. Could also do a google form if there are any other ideas
    - iv. Recorded lectures would be really good so people can stay home if they are sick
    - v. Office hours - so students can ask questions
    - vi. Can also be ideas for the department as a whole
    - vii. Workshops for writing exams
    - viii. Lab skills workshops
      1. Students might have varying degrees of lab skills
    - ix. In chemistry - used to do in person quizzes
      1. Did not like but prepared you for exam settings
      2. A lot of people now do not get that experience before an intense exam
      3. Quizzes are worth less so it can help prepare you without as much pressure
    - x. Balance in person testing without forcing students to go to class if they are not feeling well
    - xi. Some information supplied about what you should do if you are not feeling well
      1. Decisions left up to professors
      2. Inconsistent - do not know what to do for each individual class
  - b. Excess advocacy funds
    - i. Left over money from advocacy committee

1. Usually decide on a charity of local organization to donate to
2. Advocacy committee suggested sending it to humanitarian relief in Ukraine
- ii. UNS and DAPS - raising money for epilepsy association of NS
  1. Could look into adding money to that
- iii. Small section of budget for charities
  1. \$500
  2. Different than advocacy excess fund
  3. Can donate to charities that D Levels or councilors are passionate about
  4. Councillors want it to go to epilepsy
- iv. If advocacy wants to send money to humanitarian uses in Ukraine, could send DSS charity money to the D Level fundraiser
- c. Executive review
- d. Constitution changes
  - i. Committee has met and discussed
  - ii. Big changes written up
  - iii. Changes will be circulated this week - will have at least a weeks notice for the AGM where we will vote on it
  - iv. Ideas for bursary program into the constitution
    1. How to administer this properly
    2. We do have a scholarship committee but it is for external funds and merit based funds
    3. Lottery system, require financial need without comparing
    4. Accept applications into a deadline
    5. After deadline - do a lottery of all names
    6. Have it fall under VP finance role
      - a. Money used from personal grants
      - b. Not super involved - keep google form open until deadline
      - c. Random number generator
      - d. Excess funds from grants in the previous fiscal year
      - e. In in the middle of each semester
    7. Decision on splitting money
      - a. Split into smaller bursaries or larger ones will be decided at F&G
  - v. Stem outreach podcast
    1. Created by Anna and Kenzie
      - a. Have been running it
    2. Hard to do, big time commitment
    3. They are both graduating
    4. Dont want to push responsibility on stem outreach chai

5. Will be a position at SURGE - paid internship position
  - a. Will have supervisors, support
  - b. We would not have the same support system
6. Because a DSS initiative - still involved
  - a. SURGE podcast intern included in STEM outreach committed, but would not be the chair, just a member that could help plan outreach events
- vi. Peer mentorship program
  1. How hard it would be for someone starting in that position without the help of someone who has done it before
  2. Helper position - could get ready for future years - hard to make someone commit to something for multiple years
    - a. Would not logistically work the best
  3. Peer mentorship committee
    - a. Professional development rep and at least another councilor that can help with the program
    - b. Can also help transition to future years
  4. Planning peer mentorship events would be easier with a committee
- vii. D Level constituencies - Actuarial Science
  1. Used to be an Actuarial science D level - not active since winter 2018
    - a. Not ratified
    - b. Non-existent for the last couple years
    - c. Per constitution, considered inactive and can be removed as a constituent society
    - d. In constitution - would receive DSS disbursements if someone wanted to ratify
    - e. It does not exist right now so would be best to just get rid of it
    - f. They could join again later
  2. If its been inactive for 3 years, should just terminate
  3. Small program, do not start taking courses for it until winter of 3rd year
    - a. Hard D level to have continuity
  4. People feel okay removing them from constitution
    - a. Will make it official at AGM
- viii. D Level constituencies - DISS
  1. DISS D Level for integrated science has not had a rep attend any meetings
    - a. Did attend fall AGM and one other meeting
    - b. Have not attended F&G

2. Told them they had to attend this meeting or they would be considered inactive for the semester
3. Can ask them to come to the finance and grants meeting and ask them to make case why they deserve their disbursement
  - a. Would keep being part of DSS
4. Could also remove them - not an active society
5. If we give them the opportunity to make their case, but it is likely going to keep happening
  - a. Only a first-year program
6. This is the first year of the society existing
7. Did submit an audit
8. Would be interested in hearing why they have not attended a meeting
  - a. Hope that they would have some reasoning
9. DISP rep is important to have
10. If they are active in some regards - could give them another chance
11. If they do not attend the F&G
  - a. Can just terminate them, have been given many chances
12. DISS was not advertised to integrated science society
  - a. Had there been a different group of students on the society, it could go completely differently
13. Will have them at the F&G and will propose the amendment at the AGM

e. AGM

- i. All positions are open to run for
- ii. Attend office hours or email people whose positions you are interested in
- iii. Also electing an equity rep, professional development rep, senate rep, course rep coordinator
- iv. AGM open to all dal undergrad science students
  1. Everyone has a vote
- v. Promote it for the D Levels

**6. Reports from the D-Societies and Standing Committees;**

- a. Finance & Grants
  - i. Meeting with treasurers for disbursement cheques and audits
- b. Environmental Affairs
- c. Curriculum Committee
  - i. Not any changes to courses
  - ii. Did promote drop in science advising
  - iii. New process for teaching evaluations for professors to upgrade their positions
- d. First Year Rep
  - i. Trying to plan for another social event in person

- ii. Trying to do some online bulletin board or document where first years can post questions and upper leaves can respond
- e. DABS
  - i. Had an MGM last week
  - ii. Organizing a kahoot march 29th of the 5th floor bio lounge of LSC
  - iii. Also advertising spring elections
    - 1. March 30 6pm
- f. DAMS
  - i. Photo event that went well last week
  - ii. Paint night
  - iii. Intramural game - water polo
  - iv. One more bake sale
  - v. Algae panel in the works
  - vi. AGM at the end of the month
- g. DAPS
  - i. Gala with UNS at lower deck
  - ii. Raised 2000 for epilepsy foundation
  - iii. Course selection workshop
  - iv. Bake sale
  - v. Virtual ask a psychology professional event
  - vi. Wellness walk
- h. DBSS
- i. DISS
- j. DOUGS
- k. DUESA
  - i. Trivia + bingo at Graywood
    - 1. General trivia
- l. DUMASS
  - i. Clothing order in
  - ii. AGM on the 23rd in the Chase building
- m. DUPS
  - i. Career panel planned
- n. DUUCS
  - i. Clothing order
  - ii. Career night
  - iii. AGM on the 29th
- o. Dawson
  - i. Clothing ordered
  - ii. End of year banquet
    - 1. Might be at discovery centre
  - iii. Year end hike before exams start
- p. EPSS
- q. SIMS
- r. MSSDU
- s. UNS
  - i. Clothing order
  - ii. Bake sale

- iii. Course selection workshop
  - iv. Brain awareness week
    - 1. Baw\_uns on instagram
  - v. Coffee with prof
  - vi. Gala coming up from 630-1030 at lower deck
    - 1. Sold out but can get on waitlist
  - vii.
  - t. DSU Rep
    - i. DSU election open until tomorrow
  - u. Equity Rep
- 7. Announcements and Question Period;**
- a. Advocacy fund - Ukraine organization**
    - i. Donating to help Ukraine or other charities in Halifax for helping for mental health across Canada**
    - ii. Credible and secure charity - UNICEF Canada, Canadian Red Cross to help Ukraine**
    - iii. Or Feed NS or Shelter NS**
    - iv. Mental health - centre for addiction and mental health**
    - v. Trying to determine which charities we should focus on**
    - vi. Waiting to determine funds for research mixer, etc and then we will know exactly how much information**
  - b. Auxiliary fees in personal grant outline**
    - i. How much money can be applied for**
    - ii. Still getting data on that - will discuss at F&G on Monday**
- 8. Notices of Motion;**
- a. Passed**
- 9. Adjournment**