

Dalhousie Science Society Council Meeting

25th October 2021, 7-9pm

Student Union Building-Council Chambers (2nd floor boardroom)

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;**
 - motion, motion seconded
- 3. Acceptance of the minutes;**
 - motion, motion seconded
- 4. Appointments;**
 - a. Director of Student Life Election
 - previous director left the position
 - best to fill the position
 - role: run the Social Committee
 - also participates in the exec initiatives
 - first round of nominations
 - Carmen nominates Sophie Tanner (not able to be here)
 - seconded
 - closed
 - second round
 - Allie nominates Brooke Cramer
 - seconded by Carmen
 - closed
 - third round
 - closed

Brooke is elected to Director of Student Life
 - b. Appointments of Councilors without committees
 - required to sit on some sort of DSS or FoS committee
 - a couple reps do not have positions
 - DBSS
 - Executive review committee
 - DUESA
 - Nomination committee
 - DUMASS
 - Nomination committee
 - DOUGS
 - Executive review committee
 - Anna Sofia
 - on Advocacy
 - Executive review committee

- Julianne
 - STEM outreach committee
- motion passes
- everyone is elected to their committee

5. Business of the Executive;

a. President's report

- attended Faculty Committee meeting
 - new certificates being made
- led the F&G meeting last week
 - budget passed
 - in discussion with presidents
 - more D level collaboration
 - Teams group for the D level president
 - NOT a channel for the DSS
- meeting with individual members of council
- organized Dean's office meeting
- reached out to Anna (STEM outreach) for student speakers

for research mixer

- reached out about replacing Director of Student Life
- DSS reps for open house

b. Vice President's report

- chaired the advocacy committee meeting
 - discussed main goals - target housing crisis
 - help line for people who have faced sexualized

violence

- attended exec meeting
- attended F&G meeting
- focus on research mixer
 - Nov 3 6-8 pm, doors open at 545
 - catering available
 - defined speakers list
 - have one from every department except for

biochemistry, immunology

- 14 guest speakers, 5 minute presentation time
- in the McInnes rooms

-set office hours

c. Director of Finance's report

- helped with audits
- worked with Carmen for personal grants
- worked on ledger
- attended exec and social committee meetings

d. Director of Student Life

- given by Emma
- held first Social Committee meeting
 - trivia will be happening
 - decided date
 - follow up with Venus Envy, continue Smart is

Sexy

- discussed a Gala for second semester
- google docs for both
- clean up event between Social Committee and Environmental Committee
- decided a next meeting time
- attended exec meetings
- e. Director of Communication's report
 - attended exec meetings
 - attended social committee meeting
 - managed emails
 - passed F&G emails to Marissa

Attended exec meetings

6. Attended Social Committee Meeting

7. Managed emails

- a. Passed F&G emails to Marissa

8. Created full committee contact sheets for the DSS Committees and the Faculty of Science Committees

- a. Sent the contact sheets to the Committee Chairs

9. In contact with Julianne about Environmental Affairs Representative takeover

10. Took minutes

11. Set office hours

- a. Mondays 2-3 pm
- b. Director of Marketing's report
 - promo for voices of STEM podcast
 - director of student life promo
 - research mixer promo
 - uploaded agendas and minutes
 - updated councilors page
 - attended exec meetings
 - handed over first year instagram to Janani
 - reached out the Juliane
 - did weekly events instagram story
- c. Chairperson's Report
 - attended exec meetings
 - worked on help line
 - worked on finding a speaker for the research mixer
 - lead on mental health campaign
 - been developing schedule campaign
 - app of the week
 - spotify playlist
 - will be in contact with STEM committee

- working on mindfulness videos
- set office hours

12. New Business;

- Research Mixer Updates
 - completed in VP updates
- Mental Health Campaign Brainstorm
 - Linh
 - video
 - students share secrets anonymously
 - can choose to reveal face or walk away
 - good promotion for society
 - can help students to relate
 - people can talk about their problems
 - film in November, done in December for

exams

- can do multiple parts if its successful
- spotify playlist
 - studying
 - focussing
 - relaxing
 - collab with STEM commitee?
- app of the week
 - promote through stories
 - can share a lot of information
 - working with director of marketing
- mindfullness and meditation videos
- hiking sessions
- self care bags
- Thomas: difficulties finding Halifax therapists
 - could promote a list
- Johanna: psych society has a list of resources

compiled

- DSS could use this
- Carmen: infographic of how to go through this

process

- Allie: regular physical health - could medical science/health promotion help with this?
- prolonged campaign - great to collaborate with D

Levels

- Kathleen: self care checklist
 - getting enough exercise, sleep, eating enough
 - kindness wall, interactive bulletin board
 - write kind messages to friends
 - hike, mediation
 - in person event, tea coffee event
 - healthy breakfast event, meet new people
- Linh: professor that did research about student mental

health - dogs on campus?

- once a week, have dogs on campus
- DSU has some already on Thursdays
- Nicole: puppy yoga
- Carmen: spotify playlists - different spotify playlists and have the codes around campus
- student specific things
- Thomas: communal things in shared spaces
 - draw on windows with erasable markers
 - encouraging messages, gratefulness messages
 - accessible to people in passing
- chalkboard paint wall
 - hard to get faculty approval
- Bulletin board
 - can have people submit things through a google doc, and then we can post if it is fitting and appropriate
- Megan: art drop box that we could review and post
- Jayatee: people could drop something off, submit it, someone else can receive it
 - submit a positive message, put it up, another student could receive a message
- Johanna: DSS website could have mental health resources on one page
- send song suggestions to Linh!
- Carmen: create a hashtag for cohesion
 - any ideas? Something creative!
 - Emma: #mindsmatter
- Thomas: being mindful of how much control there is on communal things, it affects engagement
- anything done for the community, when you're rushing it can be hard to engage and jump through hoops to participate
- chaos can be beneficial in a space of expression
- c. Initiatives for rest of the year
 - Carmen: would like to see more of sharing resources, better communication amongst the D Levels
 - ways to improve the relationships?
 - reaching out to other faculty societies
 - talk to their presidents
 - what is everyone doing?
 - really isolated
 - Emma: could we set up once a term meetings amongst different faculty sciences?
 - how to contact those societies?
 - DSU directory- not updated
 - some have society emails
 - can also use society emails
 - Kathleen can communicate with the other undergrad faculty representatives on the DSU
 - Carmen: ways we can help the D Levels more?

- Joyce: would a counselor Teams chat be helpful?
- Megan: can get in contact with other societies right through Teams
- Johanna: helpful for short term, quicker responses
- Thomas: can help with spontaneity
- i. Increasing collaboration
 1. Within the Faculty
 - increasing participation within DSS
 - at all events, we will have a ballot section (name and department)
 - we will collect all ballots from a term, pick a name, that society will receive an extra \$200 in funding
 - what about a combined degree?
 - could split money between departments
 2. Within the University
- d. Dean's Office Meeting
 - exec will be meeting with the new Dean on November 4th
 - informal get to know the exec
 - if we are asked about student issue, is there anything we should bring forward generally?
 - Luke: places to eat - especially in LSC
 - everything closes early too
 - nothing open weekends
 - Inaya: conflicting class times
 - conflicts with classes and exams
 - Linh: many students going to 5 classes in a row
 - Julianne: nice to have the option to have many classes in a row to keep other times free
 - Carmen: required courses at the same time
 - could have a form
 - step by step of how to deal with that
 - Emma: scheduling of course registration
 - stuck with last slot, can't get required courses and can't do anything about it
 - Jayden: some particular classes are really negative for students, is there something the Dean can do?
 - Carmen: no one making sure feedback from SRIs are actually being taken into consideration
 - Megan: talk to advisors in departments, can get course overrides from Professors about course registration
 - could we hold sessions about course registration?
 - who to contact, what to do in advance
 - could the Dean's office, Registrar's Office, DalOnline, share what to do in registration problems

-Johanna: whole website needs to be more cohesive, more up to date, more effective

-Emma: can compile resources

-Thomas: sharing resources

-Luke: better communication with departments in general to bring these issues forward on a departmental level instead of a student level?

-some societies does have departmental meetings, often things do not change

-Emma: find a way to get into departmental meetings where you can reflect the students concerns

-Linh: better resources for career pathway help

-career advising may not always be accurate

-more communications of departments and students

-Carmen: remind departments that D Levels exist and want to help

-Megan: a lot of departments have specific career nights, could bring up to more departments

-Tia: not a lot of instruction of what to do if you have one symptom

-can you go to class with one symptom?

-uncertainty about what to do

-if profs could give their opinion in advance about what to do if you have a cold

-Jayatee: required textbooks, but then only using a few chapters, could be better communicated

13. Reports from the D-Societies and Standing Committees;

- a. Finance & Grants
 - budgets passed
 - D Levels presented budgets
- b. Environmental Affairs
 - beach clean up
- c. Curriculum Committee
- d. First Year Rep
 - has social media now
 - going to plan meeting
- e. DABS
 - next MGM tomorrow
 - get budget in for audit
 - in communication to set up bird safe windows
- f. DAMS
 - first in person AGM
 - base sale
 - surf trip
 - beach clean up
 - maybe something for Halloween
- g. DAPS

- in department tutoring system
- h. DBSS
 - had a board game night
 - going to have a trivia night
 - getting merch
- i. DISS
 - not present
- j. DOUGS
 - parties
 - Halloween event
 - challenging to reach students
 - department cannot access the list of majors
 - no student enrollment list
 - working on reaching students
- k. DUESA
 - had a social event
 - might have a pumpkin carving
 - budget passed
- l. DUMASS
 - scary movie night
 - general meeting November 3rd for merch
 - want merch for January
 - for anyone in math and stats department
 - some kind of Christmas event
- m. DUPS
 - Halloween movie night
 - planning a grad student lecture plus a gingerbread competition
- n. DUUCS
 - horror movie night
 - preparing research mixer and career night
 - tie dye lab coat event, holding another
- o. Dawson
 - pumpkin carving event
- p. EPSS
 - 0 waste week
 - want to collaborate with other societies
- q. SIMS
 - planned wine and cheese night
- r. MSSDU
 - some social events, promoted by Joyce
 - issue with amount of collaboration with councilors, implemented councilor participation award
 - point system for helping out, get a point, someone gets a gift card
 - Wednesday 5-7 in 303 SUB - ice cream social fundraiser
- s. UNS
 - tutoring program with DAPS

- pumpkin carving on the 29th
- t. King's Rep
- u. DSU Rep
 - DSU election campaign began
 - vote on 27th of October
 - will be sent a link to vote
- v. Senate Rep
- w. Equity Rep
 - acting off campus student advisor for the housing crisis
 - action items
 - workshops, general housing to more specific lease, legalities workshops
 - workshops about budgeting sessions when rent is so high
 - compile a list of problematic housing units
 - something that Dalhousie cannot do, but a student group can do that
 - microbursary
 - applied to wellness grants, could help 10-12 students
 - if rent is getting in the way of you meeting a well-balanced life, it can help with groceries etc
 - depends on grant approval
 - looking at different grant opportunities
 - not sure who to contact for faculty of science equity

14. Announcements and Question Period;

- office hours for execs
- link through website
- execs will be in the meeting to chat
- can find time if office hours won't work

15. Notices of Motion;

16. Adjournment

- adjourned**

Carmen- faculty of science equity contact information