**DSS Council Meeting**

February 22nd, 2016 (rescheduled from February 8th, 2016)

Chair: Mitch Coupland

1. **Introduction**
2. **Role Call**
3. **Acceptance of agenda**
	1. Agenda received
	2. Motion by Alex to accept the agenda as distributed, seconded by Adele, passed
4. **Acceptance of minutes**
	1. Minutes received
	2. Motion by Alex to accept the minutes as distributed, seconded by Trevor, passed
5. **Communications received**
	1. Meagan: UNS sends Michael Landsman and Will Brien as a proxy. Microbiology sends Matteo Zago as a proxy for Shelby MacDougall.
6. **New Business**
	1. Purpose of Meetings
		1. Tori: Meetings occur to discuss anything school related or important to the Department. This assists communications with the Dean through the DSS. We will not penalize you for not speaking; but do not feel that you need to keep quiet. Rather than announcements, the executive have decided to have more in the new business section of the agenda to encourage discussion
		2. Mitch: We can also talk about procedural activities.
		3. No questions or comments to improve meetings.
	2. Tuition update
		1. Tori: Last meeting, John Hutton spoke about the tuition increases, which were shown to be accurate. To get involved, attend BAC consultations with Free Kraft dinners this week to share stories about how you pay for school. While these tuition hikes do not affect us, it is important to voice your opinion and protect our peers. The board of governors meeting was on the snow day, but hopefully was well attended.
	3. Co-op discussion
		1. Tori: At the moment Dalhousie follows the regulations of an accredited co-op program, despite not being accredited, including the requirement that one co-op term be during the school year, which deters students from completing co-op since it requires that students take a 5-year degree or a summer semester. Fewer students means a weaker program, which deters job postings. I proposed that to encourage students to enter co-op, Dalhousie, not follow the accreditation rules and allow co-op terms to be taken at any time in the students degree, including terms that are only during the summer or the summer after graduation.
			1. Simon: There is effectively no Winter co-op in Geology, since all of the jobs are in the field, which is too cold to work on in the winter. Thus, students cannot get winter semester jobs and are forced to drop out of co-op. Changing the regulations would be beneficial to co-op programs like this that are seasonal.
			2. Tori: It is difficult to commit to co-op with these regulations, as is.
			3. Ola: Is co-op departmentally regulated?
				1. Tori: No, the Faculty of Science regulates the co-op program.
				2. Simon: However, the jobs differ by department and are influenced by field.
			4. Tori: Would people have liked to participate in co-op if the regulations were different? In chemistry, I found co-op too hard to get into since it demanded school time.
				1. Meagan: I would have liked to do co-op, but the regulations restrict the Neuroscience department from even holding co-op, since laboratory classes required for out degree cannot be taken in the summer.

Thomas: The Ocean Science department also cannot have a co-op program for that reason.

* + - * 1. Micassa: This is not common, but I dropped out of co-op in order to gain more experience in other things, since co-op leaves students with no time off: all semesters are highly regulated with no breaks for summer. It was a big commitment to 5 years of continuous school or work.
	1. Smart is Sexy
		1. Tori: Smart is Sexy trivia night is Saturday March 5th at 8pm. Each department will submit 5 questions by February 26th at 6pm. Each society could create a Facebook group for their team to get people less involved in the society involved in the event; team sizes are unlimited. You can submit minute-to-win-it games, if you would like to run them. Dan and Marc (the Presidents of DUPS) are MCing. Get there early, since the event is busy.
	2. DSS March lecture Series
		1. Tori: DSS are having lectures in March on Thursdays.
			1. Kasey: Dr. Quinn who does cardio-research is presenting on March 24th.
		2. Tori: Send an email to dss@dal.ca or let the executive know about any interesting professors or community speakers that you would like. We can’t get Bill Nye, since he is $50, 000.
			1. Allister: What is this event?
				1. Tori: Lecture series on anything interesting to science or general public.
			2. Mona: Can you award class-credit for attending?
				1. Tori: No
			3. Simon: Departments hold talks to which anyone can go.
			4. Matt: How do we let you know about professors?
				1. Tori: Talk to executive or email dss@dal.ca.
			5. Tori: Some money set aside for transportation of speakers, so we can bring someone from the community in.
	3. DSS elections
		1. Tori: DSS elections are on April 4th. All executive positions, including DSU representative, will be open; a lot of the executive are graduating and will not be rerunning. You can apply to any of them; the president requires 1 year of council experience, which you all have. These elections are not meant to be scary: when I first ran, I didn’t know what a D-level was. When you run you will have a 5-minute speech and then any science student attending AGM can vote. Prior to the election, there will be a campaign period, which is unregulated, unlike the DSU campaigning.
		2. Allister: Since the DSU representative is less know than the executive positions: this requires you to attend DSU meetings as the science representative with the DSS Vice President, attend DSS meetings as the DSU representative. Faculty representatives are all in attendance to DSU, so its good for networking. You need to sit on one DSU committee.
		3. Thomas: Is the DSS strictly undergraduate?
			1. Tori: Yes, since graduate science has their own societies.
	4. DSU election
		1. Tori: The DSU election nomination period begins soon, February 22nd - February 26th. All 5 executive positions are at full time salary, and you only require 1 class to be eligible. The DSU is strict on campaigning: to be completed in a given week. The reason that we switched the schedule of DSS council meetings was so that the DSU election candidates can talk at the meetings for us to support one. Many candidates try to worm into the DSS, but we will elect to support specific candidate. If you would like to campaign, the DSS can help.
		2. Thomas: Is the DSU only for undergraduate?
			1. Tori: No, there are Masters students currently on it.
1. **Business of the Executive**
	1. President’s report
		1. Booked March 4th for Smart is Sexy
		2. Attended meetings
		3. Goals: To be more organized (this is a life goal)
	2. Vice President’s report
		1. Attended the DSU meeting and academic meeting
		2. Goals: Not to interrupt during meetings and to keep more informed
	3. Director of Finance’s report
		1. Ran Finance and Grants meeting just prior
		2. Competed books, sent them to DSU to be audited
		3. Met with D-level treasurers for audit help and in the process of returning books
		4. Goals: To go over grants and budget more thoroughly and to be more present in DSS outside
	4. Director of Communication’s report
		1. Maintained email account
		2. Sent out meeting reminders, attendance records, minutes
		3. Goals: Shorten emails and to be more assertive
	5. Director of Student Life’s report
		1. In talks with the Stubborn goat that billed the DSS incorrectly
		2. Hosting DSS Yoga classes for Mental health week
		3. Planning Smart is Sexy
		4. Goals: To talk more during meetings and to be assertive
	6. Director of Marketing’s report
		1. Completed risk management for CPR and yoga
		2. Booked and advertised Smart is Sexy
		3. Posted agenda and minutes
		4. Advertised Neuroscience events
		5. Goals: To help the D-levels with events (sent out an email to Presidents offering services) and to talk more during meetings
	7. Chairpersons Report
		1. Chaired the Finance and Grants meeting
		2. Getting refund from Gala with Adele
		3. Answered constitutional questions
		4. Goals: To find balance of relaxation and Robert’s rules in meetings
2. **Reports of Committees and Societies**
	1. Finance & Grants
		1. Just had meeting
		2. Gave 15 personal grants, for $1562.93
		3. Gave conference grants of $1747, including to physics
	2. Environmental Affairs
		1. Chair resigned from position, so report to be tabled
	3. Curriculum Committee
		1. Allister proxied the meeting for Ola
		2. There is a new Bachelor of Computer Science and Management, a major in Cinema and media studies, a law and society minor, the Faculty of Science has new writing credit classes, the biochemistry minor class requirements are now translated into the requirements for a 3-year degree in Biochemistry, and some earth science course are getting cross listed with physics
			1. King and arts collaborated on the medical humanities class which has the possibly of a minor, mostly related to policy; this is interesting for health policy students
		3. Brightspace is replacing BlackBoard in the coming year
			1. Currently the Faculty is going through change-over and training
		4. Thomas: Is the new Bachelor of Management and Computer science different from Bioinformatics?
			1. Tori: Bioinformatics is a minor in Faculty of Science. This is in the commuter science degree that is similar.
	4. First Year Rep
		1. Absent
	5. DISP Rep
		1. Sweaters are being distributed February 23rd, 2016
		2. Making a Lip-sync video of Taylor Swifts Shake it off to release stress of exams
		3. Planning a winter semester party
	6. DABS
		1. Held the Cameron Conference
		2. Planning the BioBall on February 25th
		3. Hosting Smart is Sexy
		4. Hosting Peer study sessions
		5. Held a Valentine’s bake sale
	7. DAMS
		1. Planning a Masquerade Ball in March
		2. Hosting Smart is Sexy
		3. Received third clothing order
		4. Hosting study sessions
		5. Attended a pub crawl after Cameron Conference
		6. Held a Valentine’s bake sale
	8. DAPS
		1. Starting to take clothing orders
		2. Holding bake sale this week
		3. Holding graduate school information session on February 25th
		4. Holding meditation session for Mental Health awareness week
	9. DBSS
		1. Holding a games night on February 25th for Biochemistry students
		2. Held bake sale before reading week
		3. Held brewery tour
		4. Planning Gala with Microbiology in April
	10. DOUGS
		1. Received clothing order
		2. Holding ski trip on February 27th
		3. Held bake sales and attended Moosehead’s hockey game
	11. DUESA
		1. Attended Moosehead’s game
		2. Received clothing order
		3. Hosting peer advice sessions for students entering Economics degree
		4. Planning gala
	12. DUMASS
		1. Planning Wine and cheese on March 4th
		2. Hosting party on March 18th
	13. DUPS
		1. Attended Atlantic physics and astronomy conference
	14. DUUCS
		1. Hosting Career night on March 3rd in the Chemistry Building, room 226
	15. Dawson
		1. Booked Dirty Nellies for year end banquet
		2. Receiving orders for second clothing order
		3. Hosted a survey between the undergraduate population and the new Head of department to help facilitate communication and focus of classes
	16. EPSS
		1. Hosting Sugar moon trip March 5th, with pancakes and hiking
		2. Holding Green beer in future
	17. SIMS
		1. Hosting Biochemistry Gala April 1st in McInnes of SUB
		2. Holding bake sale February 26th
		3. Holding Brewery tour in March
		4. Selling shirts
		5. Graduate students attended the Immunology conference
	18. MSSDU
		1. Holding game night February 25th
		2. Hosting Gala in march
		3. Planning to go to GetAir on April 1st
		4. Selling tickets to Pacifico for $10 on February 25th
	19. UNS
		1. Holding Graduate studies information session with psychology on February 25th
		2. Hosting Gala on March 11th
		3. Attending cosmic bingo February 27th at SUB at 9pm
	20. King’s Rep
		1. Absent
	21. DSU Rep
		1. Dalhousie 200 Years Committee is seeking ideas to celebrate dal.ca/200years; already proposed:
			1. Brew a Dalhousie drink that is dark and then light, for different seasons that symbolizes black and gold, Dalhousie colours
		2. Levee questions passed:
			1. World university Dal chapter raised from $0.75 to $1
			2. $0.30 levee for society
		3. Senate reform for increasing to 17 to 22 senate positions just passed that allowed one representative from each faculty and then equity representatives
			1. DSU is unsure of how to elected the Faculty representatives
			2. Tori: John Hutton asked how the elections should go. I wanted to elect the representatives in DSS since elections go better (for turnout), live elections allow people not elected to rerun for other positions, which better fills the position, and are controlled by the Faculty. Hutton seemed not to want to since faculty elections occur with the DSU
			3. DSS decided to have elected representative within the DSS since the two groups need to be on same page to have one opinion.
				1. Thomas: I agree that we should ensure cohesiveness between two; especially since then the representative won’t go rouge and not reflect science students
				2. Kasey: The DSU actually agrees with Tori, but the Faculties with half terms (architecture and planning) disagree. This is still a problem because many people vote for DSU based on how the names sound; this at least will be fixed slightly since only science can vote for the Science representative.
				3. Emily: DESA had a re-election, where no one voted since the campaign was underrepresented; this may be a problem if Faculty representatives were also to be voted on.
				4. Adele: Is there any compromise that can be reached for voting?

Tori: Our executive were voted online and it didn’t work; I don’t think the matter fits a compromise.

* + - 1. Matteo: What is the due date for levee questions.
				1. Emily: January 15th
			2. Proposal to change how Type I societies get levee, since these societies are entitled to their money and should not have to wait for an audit. Had a discussion on Wednesday after the motion was sent back from board of operations with suggestions that it fail; most of the DSU disagrees with the motion.
				1. Tori: Even though the rules are annoying, it shouldn’t be passed, since it unregulated the process and executive leaving incurs chaos.
			3. Aaron Prosper, previously a councillor, is the Aboriginal representative
1. **Question and Answer Period**
	1. Tori: Which societies have Friday beers? DSS proposed pub crawl of the D-level Beers.
		1. 6 societies raise hands to confirm they have beer nights.
	2. Kevin: For EconoBrew, how do you serve the alcohol?
		1. Tori: At the Grawood, Greg will give you a liquor licence; you also need Smart Serve. You must buy your beer from Grawood, who dictate the minimum price of sales.
2. **Announcements**
	1. Adele: We have booked the Emergency First Aid and CPR C course for March 12th 8:30am – 4:30pm in room 320 of the SUB for recertification through Saint John Ambulance for 20 – 25 people.
		1. Thomas: Is this course just for a recertification? And how expired can your first aid be to still be considered for a recertification? Can you recertify if its from a different provider or country?
			1. Meagan: It is just the recertification and you must have been certified within 5 years from any provider. I do not know about the differences between countries certifications.
3. **Adjournment**
	1. Motion by Emily to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alex, passed