



1. Roll Call

- Ramz: more study rooms have been opened for quiet study. Posting on Facebook. Study space guide on Oolala app
- Josh
- Aaron
- Kaitlynn, Arts rep: two weeks ago the university admin released that they would protect the library acquisition budget, largely because of student pressure
- Taylor, DASSS President: conference coming up next term, working on intermural
- Heema, BOG rep:
- JD, BOG rep: 29 students at the last weeks meeting, brought the petition. Also took to the province
- Alex, Commerce rep: not much going on
- Kate, sexton campus director: meetings with exec about meeting space on sexton campus. T-room now open on week days for studying
- Sam, Science:
- Francis, DSS rep:
- Alex, Senate rep: SIRI closes tonight, discussion to follow
- Michelle, aboriginal rep:
- Anthony, law rep:
- Pat, DAGS: professional development lecture at the Killam on Friday
- Mashika, International students rep: had meeting with Florizon about 100 days of listening and why international students did not fill out the forms. Brazilian party went very well. New years event at the Gradhouse.
- Ryan, Senate rep: sitting on discipline committee
- Grant, Management rep: society just finished 5 days of Christmas and an academic review. They shared any improvements to the program
- Laura, Women's rep: South house is sending out Christmas cards. Taking donations, get put in a draw
- Alyson, engineering rep: Concerns with divest Dal, 50% of students said they were strongly against. A lot of companies we may be divesting from would be potential employers. Would like to invite Divest Dal to come talk to engineering
- Health Profession rep:
- Tara, Med School: approached by Liberal party to sit on committee on retention in the province
- Danny, VP student life: thinking to next semester
- Sagar:
- Regrets: Anna, Greg, Dal Out Rep, Rebeca Elstein, Catstein

2. Acceptance of the Agenda



- Motion to appoint Secretary, directly after Acceptance of Agenda
 - Sagar: Move elections discussion to January, strike discussion on executive reform for today, strike council reports
 - Motion to add 5 minutes discussion on SIRI in new business
 - Motion to omnibus everything but election reform:
 - Motion on striking election reform:
Aaron- we should discuss this because they are big issues that need to mulled over
-No new ideas have been presented so not sure what else would be added to the discussion
-Sagar move to call a the question, seconded: motion passed
-Need 2/3 : 18 votes yes, passed. Election will be struck from the agenda
 - Motion to strike election policy: 20 votes yes. Will be struck from the agenda
3. Appointment: Secretary- Marielle wins unopposed
4. Acceptance of the minutes from the previous 2 meetings
Minutes were not emailed out, they still require some changes
5. Appointments
- a. Member at Large
 - Meant to represent “the average student”
 - Kaitlynn: nominates Jacqueline, accepted
 - Josh: nominates Edgar, accepted
 - Point of information: which position are we elected, there are supposed to be 4? – Member at large appointed in January needs to be first year student, right now we are electing one of two regular undergrad reps
 - 2 minute speaking time, 2 minute questions
 - Edgar: VP finance last year, was on the Board of Operations but resigned on Monday because he found in frustrating because he did not have faith in the governance of the Union that they would follow with suggestions. Wants to strengthen the governance of council, encourage council members to be empowered. Wants visioning of DSU mandate, strategic plan. How are we elected? How do we represent our students?
Questions:
-What is your opinion on the efficacy of the position? No more or less useful than representing a society. It’s about actually going out and seeing what is out there, it can be a effective position if you make it one.
-You seem mostly interested in governance in council and DSU, would you like to correlate your focus between this and outreach to students? The value of M at Large is not actually about making decision at council; value is in trying to fix council. Bring the voice that we all, as councilors, need to change the way we reach out to students, so we are actually relevant.
-The value of M at Large is to reach a variety of students, what kind of



standing do you have in the greater Dalhousie students? Over the past 4 years I have been involved in a variety of positions, I believe I would be able to go to any number of groups and consult effectively

- Jacqueline: Why I want to do this, over past few weeks I have been talking with hundreds of students. I have heard a range of problems, past just the libraries, I want a platform for more legitimacy in being able to deal with their issues. I want to represent students in a broader sense in front of faculty/admin

- What is your opinion on the efficacy of the position? It has not been a position that people have not taken ownership over, but I would like to

-What other societies (other than DASSS) are you involved? On the equity committee, classics society, international student committees

-What other strategies (other than town hall) would you use to engage strategies? Class talks, I have been doing over 10 class talks a day and it was very rewarding. It gives you an answer right away

-Would you say that academic experience is your focus? Yes absolutely, I would like to see that people actually get what they pay for, this is one of the greatest complaints I have heard so far

-1 to 10 what is your understanding of council as a structure? 7

- Motion to go in camera, seconded. Passed.
- Motion to move ex camera, seconded. Passed
- Jacqueline is voted as new member at large
- Motion to destroy ballots, seconded. Passed

6. Old Business

a. Decision Item: SUB renovations contract (motion attached)

- Josh: we have been in a contract with Lydon Lynch, we need to resign the contract for them to continue working for us. Easier than handing it over to new company.
- Motion to call the question, seconded. Passed
- Motion that is attached to the bottom of the document- #1. Seconded. Motion is carried. Objection by Anthony, Law Rep

b. Decision Item: SUB renovations to student referendum (motion attached)

- Move to call the question. Seconded. Motion is carried
- Motion that is attached at bottom of the documents -2#.
- Point of information: is this a motion to spend money to design something we don't know will pass? No, the referendum is about whether we pass the 8 vs 13\$ million dollar plan.
- Plan does have to go to referendum, no other way around it
- 120, 000\$ will be spent regardless of whether the plan goes through or not



- Point of information: the question at hand is to put the plan to a student vote, and it also means that the architect will design plans for both 8 and 13 million dollar plan.
- Motion that is attached to bottom. Seconded. Objection: Antony, Aaron, Ashika. Abstentions: Laura and Jacqueline. Motion is passed.

c. Discussion Item: Bill of rights

- Josh: we brought it to our lawyer, suggestions: **Recommendations Surrounding the Dal United Bill of Rights**
RE: Tim Hill legal council for the Dalhousie Student Union
- Removal of paragraph two under Right to Transparency & Accountability. (this is the section that discusses “skimming” and “lying” by the University)
- Removal of the first condition demanding the conducting of a forensic audit given that forensic audits are intended to be used in a court of law and may infer fraud and embezzlement
- Removal of paragraph dictating Enact Right to Organize Legislation for Student Unions
- 5 minute moderated caucus
- JD: sent to a working group, Dal United. Motion to table the document, seconded. Objection by Ryan and Aaron. Abstention, Anthony. Motion is carried.

d. Discussion Item: Advocacy Review

- Aaron: Report was sent out Sunday, new version was sent out today. Differences are mostly correspondences with different groups. “Peak” because there will be a big turnover on knowledge next year. Discussion about alternative: added more documents. Student wants something to compare the value of these lobby organizations. Meant to be an example for people to compare between the two, tried to create an alternative. Identified need for further research, how this new department will work in general. Contact schools who have dropped out and what their experience was.

Conversations at the ARC have been good but not super polarized, people have tried to keep their biases out but they ultimately do come out sometimes.

- Allie: any clarifying questions?
-Tara: What percentage of student unions that you talked to dropped out? All except for one. What is the total number of students spoken to? 89
-Josh: When are we bringing this to Board of Operations? It has been brought it, moved to January



- Allie: By when should decision on membership be made?
 - Aaron: if exec reform happens, they need to know what positions will be available for them to run for. February 3rd.
- Moving into a moderated caucus
 - Beth: melding exec reform into this makes it a very complicated issue. Way too much going on to be discussed at one time
 - Aaron: urgency is that we want to go into January with a plan, and present students with alternative. Splitting my position was outlined as a priority
 - Josh: rush is making me uncomfortable. Taking a month and a half to educate people is not enough to have a frank discussion on the issue
 - Laura: somethings do need to be discussed now. Exec reform perhaps should be pushed but everything else has been discussed. Firm on VPA being split
 - Beth: I disagree about VPA being split. Okay to talk about CASA, but problem with making many other decisions on something that is tentative
- Allie: will go through every question, then after that go back into a moderated caucus discussing all of them. 10 Minutes, 30 seconds speaking time
 - Alyson: I was under the impression that splitting of VPA is only an option if we pull out of CASA
 - Aaron: yes, first we vote for CASA, then Exec reform
 - Sagar: if we do it on Feb 3 I don't think we will have enough time to put it in policy and processes. There are a lot of steps to go through from Feb 3 to march
 - Taylor: We asked exec to talk to Craig Kennedy why they meld VPA position 8 years ago?
 - Sagar: It used to be a person who did work with education and CASA externally.
 - Kaitlynn: there is an issue that we are confusing student advocacy and exec reform. VPA is one of many reforms we have discussed. We also have to discussed how student advocacy is to be decided
 - Josh: money does need to be spent, could be going to lowering student fees. Could be used for anything.
 - Motion to extend to 1 minute speaking times
 - Grad rep: knowing what we want to do with advocacy will influence our decision on exec reform. The advocacy decision should be made
 - Tara: what makes me most uncomfortable is that we are suggesting changing from a referendum. AGM is not representative, 89 students consulted not representative.
 - Ryan: ARC has done a survey; most do not know/do not care about the issue. ARC was made for us to become knowledgeable, why we need to do this this year is because next year people will have to relearn everything
 - Josh: U of M report- did a full advocacy report we need something more substantial. Our report was more of an opinion paper
 - Anthony: advocacy is to connect our organization to government, might be



wise to include someone from the government to ask who they like to hear from.

-Beth: Bias response, most schools that were consulted were ones dropping out. No one was asked that is really positive about it. We need to think about what we would do to Students Nova Scotia by leaving, we make up 50% and should be able to dictate some of their actions

-Motion to add 5 minutes to discussion, seconded. Aaron objection. Motion is passed

-Laura: students that come to AGM would be the ones who care/know about the issue so it may be representative. Has the DSU made efforts to work with Students NS to further goals?

-Aaron: consensus about getting this done this year. Very few spoke in favor of AGM. Splitting VPA was the direction. I was given a mandate to find alternatives to the organizations and to get it done this year.

-Pat: The organizations are very different, why they aren't working for you are different reasons. SNS does do engagement; logistically CASA does not do as much. I think AGM is appropriate, but we still need to go out and consult more.

-Tara: I don't think that this has been an issue for a long time, mostly reflective of opinions of exec right now. Past exec have spoken strongly in favor of CASA and SNS

-Motion to extend by 5 minutes, seconded. Motion carried

-JD: We should have invited CASA to speak for themselves and pro CASA people. A lot of the U of M report

-Pat gives speaker rights to Elyse: I suggest that the government has never been friendly with government. We need someone who is pushing government

-Ashika: I am on a working group, working on recommendations about policy the increase in international fees. I do not agree with this ideology. I would be okay with Dal having its own representative

-Pat: We can make suggestions to SNS about staff and what they are doing. Furthering Dal's interest is what our goal should be, but if we have a problem with staff it doesn't mean we have to leave the organization

-Alex: I am interested in how many schools are with CASA, it does not look like many are. I am happy people are expressing discomfort about this. It is hard when councilors do not come to every meeting, for continuity.

-Beth: I really want to believe why people want to drop out of the organizations. What I read this morning, was something that was unorganized and not presented in a way that makes it easy to understand. I want to see realistic changes

-Josh: Why are we taking away something that is voted for last year? Contentious last year, AGM historically not well attended. I don't want to see a small insider group to make the decision.

-Aaron: we laid out questions that we could make about process. Something we didn't talk about is resources. Thank you for working with this, understand that there is frustration.

- Motion to take 5-minute recess. Seconded. Motion is passed.

7. New Business

a. AGM Dates

-BIRT: Council set dates for two Annual General Meetings on January 23rd and February 5th 2014

- Sagar: Hoping to call an AGM, change the wording from And to Or. Advocacy would like a date because it would be where we change the constitution, to voting to leave SNS and CASA. Notion of motion, constitutional amendment to change last year's constitutional amendment. I am sensing a different vibe then before. Should we take the question to an AGM-temperature check?
- Beth: Motion to amend to set the AGM to February 5th, seconded. Objection, Aaron. Abstention Ryan. Motion is carried.
- Motion to call the question, seconded. Aaron objection. Motion is passed
- Motion on BIRT, seconded. Aaron objection, Abstention Ryan. Motion is passed

b. Discussion- Senate Reform

- Aaron: There is recommendation to include more student reps, include one from each faculty. I will take questions
- Opening 5 minutes moderated caucus
- Tara: I think reform is great. Senate vs DSU council rep?
- Aaron: Having one senator per faculty gives them a constituency, not sit on council. All things to be discussed later
- Alyson: Would there only be one senator for engineering? Some upper years have not ever been on campus, bad representation of engineering
- Aaron: I will include it in my report
- Kaitlynne: huge support for this, especially faculty particularly VPA. Better representation overall
- Taylor gives speaker rights to William: What is the status for Kings students? Do we want them to have a place on the Senate?
- Beth: Love example of U of BC, it is a very prestigious position there. I think a big part of this idea is to rebrand the Senate in some way. Also good that they do not sit on council
- Alex: 'in support of adding more students. I am sitting on Senate committees and working groups. The opportunities are there for students to give their opinions and get involved



- Tara: The only thing that came to mind, is that it might be good for them to sit on Council to get general sense of all students. Present a united student voice rather than 13 different opinions.

c. SIRI

- Tonight is the last time you can fill it out, discussion on what people think of the process.
 - Beth: putting the onus on the prof to go online and do it has taken its toll, people are confused, worried about the online component, could be tracked.
 - What other way would you suggest, rather than profs?
 - A person to come in the class and designate time to do it
 - Kaitlynn: last year was one of lowest response rates. May be better to have both paper and online version. Option to fill it out in the SUB
 - Matt: some classes I didn't want to affect their tenure or professional development but I do want to offer suggestions
 - Alyson: Most people probably don't see the point of filling them out.
 - Grant: There have been times that certain profs have not shown the right level, many students have expressed it through SIRI but the prof continues to teach... are theses actually being read?
 - Sam: Science is working on modifying tenure, when you check that you want feedback to affect tenure... who sees that?
 - I think it goes to the Dean and Chair
 - Beth: some faculties have it that a certain number of responses have to be below 3 for them to be looked at. The dean does not look at every single one.

8. Executive Reports

- Aaron: Please come to me with questions. How do we feel about a January 6th? Temperature check
- Beth: Sagar, what is the deal with TedX nominations?
- Sagar: Very easy, go to the website or just write on the chalkboard! And we will do the work for you. Theme: innovation
- Beth: CASA lobby meeting?
- Sagar: I was in Ottawa last week for CASA lobby meeting. Met with our local Senators and MPs over various issues including student loans, open resources. I think it improved our reputation, federal politics move slowly
- Beth: Danny, what are you doing for frost fest on Sexton?
- Danny: nothing as of yet, but there will be something there
- Beth: Thank you for the summer bus pass!!!!
- Taylor: Ramz mentioned that classrooms are being opened, what is the status?
- Sagar: I can get you this info, SUB will be 24 hrs starting tonight.



9. Notices of Motion

- Sagar: Friendly with council? Putting it forward, that there will be no changes till Feb 6th, that at the next council meeting we put forth the motion

10. Announcements

- Taylor: I think the Exec should update the website!
- Allie: I would really like to hear feedback from anyone, email me!

11. Adjournment

Josh motions to adjourn, seconded by Kaitlynne. Motion is passed.