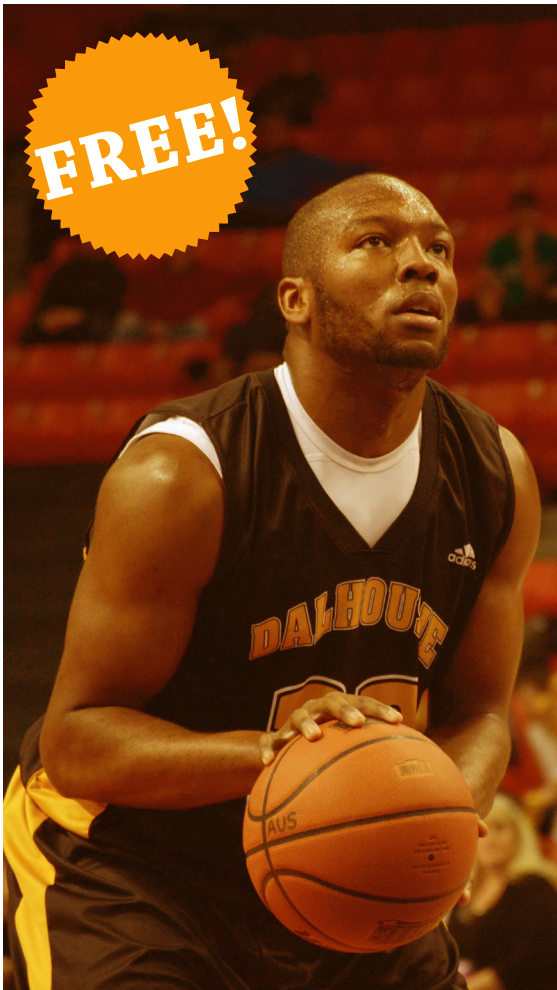


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The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, est. 1868



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the fine print

The Gazette is the official written record of Dalhousie University since 1868. It is published weekly during the academic year by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. The Gazette is a student-run publication. Its primary purpose is to report fairly and objectively on issues of importance and interest to the students of Dalhousie University, to provide an open forum for the free expression and exchange of ideas, and to stimulate meaningful debate on issues that affect or would otherwise be of interest to the student body and/or society in general. Views expressed in the letters to the editor, the Streeater, and opinions section are solely those of the contributing writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Gazette or its staff. Views expressed in the Streeater feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff.

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DSU leaves Students Nova Scotia

Council votes to disaffiliate after releasing statement on systemic sexism

Jesse Ward
Editor-in-chief

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) is now fully independent in its advocacy efforts after DSU council voted to leave provincial student advocacy group Students Nova Scotia (SNS) at a special council meeting on Friday.

The near-unanimous vote to leave SNS came immediately after a 40-minute closed session where council drafted and unanimously voted to release a statement saying they had been presented with “concrete evidence of systemic sexism, discrimination and unprofessional behaviour in Students Nova Scotia.”

Before the vote occurred, DSU President Ramz Aziz gave a presentation on his experiences with SNS and his vision for the future of DSU advocacy. He estimated the DSU will reclaim approximately \$45,000 if they disaffiliate from SNS.

During the question period for his speech, Aziz alleged the organization has a culture of racism, and that racist comments were frequently made and then “laughed off” by members of SNS.

Jonathan Williams, executive director of SNS, was present for the beginning of the meeting. Williams left after he was not allowed to give a speech he had prepared.

Daniel Smith, architecture and planning rep, voted to add a speech by Williams to the agenda.

Council voted this down, preventing Williams from speaking, though DSU Vice President (Internal) Jacqueline Skiptunis noted she had met with SNS the preceding Friday and emailed them the prior week asking if there was anything they wanted to pass on to councillors.

SNS has not yet publicly responded to the DSU’s statement alleging evidence of systemic sexism, discrimination and unprofessional behaviour in their organization.

Aziz alleges racism in SNS, hypothesizes future of DSU advocacy

Prior to debate surrounding the vote, Aziz gave a presentation explaining his involvement with SNS, why he believed the DSU should leave SNS, and his vision for the future of advocacy in the DSU.

Aziz said that at the start of the year, he took on the position of Vice President Administration with SNS and hoped for the DSU to take on a leadership role within the organization.

He said he tried in the best of his ability to find evidence to answer the question, “Does the DSU’s \$90,000 annual investment in Students Nova Scotia provide value to Dalhousie students?”

He said he learned that “drastic changes to the organization were not possible”, like having the reduction of tuition fees be a major goal for the year.

He noted that the time he spent working for SNS was time he was not spending on campus, and spoke further to his concerns with the way the organization is run.

“You will find Students Nova Scotia’s campaign budget is actually smaller than the Dal budget, and something like that bothers me,” said Aziz.

He summarized his opinions saying SNS is not worth “a \$90,000 a year membership.”

Aziz said the DSU’s upcoming governance review can review

the allocation of the \$45,000 that the DSU would retain if they left SNS.

“Initial thoughts are, we can invest in one more staff person that’s focused on campaigns, or specific research areas for it,” said Aziz.

After Aziz’s presentation Yazan Khader, Member-at-large on council, asked how SNS addresses oppression of women and minorities.

“I find that commonly, racist comments are made on a regular basis [...] and when they are brought up, they’re like, ‘Oh, no, no.’ You know, they’ll make up some excuse,” said Aziz in his response.

“Or, ‘We didn’t mean that,’ or something else. What can I say? It is a culture in the organization. I apologize, I know it will offend a lot of people, but there is a lot of privilege in the organization, especially a lot of white male privilege.”

At the end of the discussion that ensued following the end of Aziz’s presentation, Jacqueline Skiptunis, DSU Vice President (Academic and External), spoke against claims that SNS hadn’t been invited to speak at the meeting with copies of email chains.

Skiptunis brought 15 copies of two email chains to the meeting, so they could be distributed among council. She read aloud an email she sent to SNS on Feb. 17, where she had invited them to give input she could pass on to councillors.

The second chain of emails Skiptunis brought copies of regarded a meeting she had with SNS on Feb. 20.

Skiptunis motioned to go in camera before continuing with her information.

After a councillor asked

Skiptunis why she wanted to go in camera, she answered, “I was going to clarify. It’s because it’s do with governance and things with the board of Students Nova Scotia, and I’m not sure if it’s something that is entirely open to everyone, and I wouldn’t want to broadcast it to the world, but I think it’s relevant for councillors to know.”

After a 50-minute private in camera session, non-council members in attendance were permitted to return. A message providing an idea of what occurred during the private session was on the projection screen:

“At our Council meeting on Friday February 27th, 2015, Council was presented with concrete evidence of systemic sexism, discrimination, and unprofessional behavior within Students Nova Scotia.

Councillors collectively drafted and unanimously voted to release this statement as we have significant concerns about the evidence presented. The evidence directly conflicts with Council’s Statement Against Misogyny, as well as equity clauses and commitments to anti-discrimination enshrined within the DSU governing documents.”

Skiptunis has told the *Gazette* the evidence cited in the statement is composed of minutes of meetings of the SNS board and personal emails.

When asked whether the DSU intends to release any further statements or evidence regarding their statement, Aziz told the *Gazette* via email, “The DSU currently has no plans as yet to release evidence related to the Council statement.”

Near-unanimous vote passes motion to leave SNS

The motion to leave SNS saw twenty-five votes in favour of leaving, three abstentions and one vote to remain affiliated with SNS.

Two of the councillors who abstained said the material presented during the in camera session changed their initial vote.

Williams’ speech

The speech that Williams had planned to give a council may be found online at dalgazette.com in our *Letters* section, titled “Jonathan Williams’ speech to DSU council”.

The letter contains a summary of projects SNS has pursued in the last year. It expands on a vision paper that was released to council the previous week outlining SNS’ stance that student financial assistance should be prioritized over tuition reductions.

The speech also includes a list of SNS projects that the DSU allegedly opted not to participate in over the last two years.

Williams showed up alone to the meeting. In his speech, he says this is “because our volunteers and our staff members did not sign up to be suffer personal attacks or have their work misrepresented”.

“To be honest, knowing what had happened at this council last year, one of our representatives, who happens to be a woman, actually had a panic attack that prevented them from assisting me in our presentation to council in the fall,” says Williams in the speech.

Tabling major motions at DSU Council



Council meeting ••• Photo by Eleanor Davidson

Eleanor Davidson
News Editor

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) council advocated for student democracy this Wednesday in a room with broken heating as some councillors browsed Facebook on their laptops.

The DSU had a 15-minute break between their Special General Meeting regarding Students Nova Scotia and the start of the regularly scheduled council meeting on Feb. 25, causing the council meeting to start with a delay after a pause for pizza and coffee.

DSU Council Chair Andrew Christofi and the councillors soon showed their fatigue, tabling the majority of the agenda's proposed points until future meetings.

In the midst of the approval of previous minutes and the setup for a series of presentations by Dal societies, the meeting quickly derailed.

Vice-President (Student Life) Danny Shanahan brought forward a proposal for five students from across the three Dalhousie campuses (Studley, Carleton and Sexton) to be appointed to a Student Services Review working

group.

Shanahan's promise of a quick appointment became a 45-minute debate, ending with the appointment of four out of five representatives.

Christofi ended the discussion himself before a fifth representative from another campus could be appointed.

"We're wasting so much time trying to proceed here and it's an insult to everyone [...]"

"We're wasting so much time trying to proceed here and it's an insult to everyone because we could be spending this time on referendum questions. It's an insult to everyone to spend this time, so now I have to pretend like I don't enforce procedures. Proper procedure means that things go smoothly," said Christofi.

Jacqueline Skiptunis, Vice-

President (Academic and External), presented a document to a council titled A Snapshot of Advocacy at the Dalhousie Student Union.

Skiptunis' presentation quickly turned to a discussion of the role of oppression on campus and how initial plans for tackling advocacy issues will always change depending on campus circumstances.

Skiptunis' response was that council must get in touch with higher numbers of Dal students.

"Using council effectively would be fantastic. If every person in this room walked out and talked to 10 people that would be beautiful," said Skiptunis.

Yet, as the meeting continued and an audience member stretched out on the floor, appearing to take a nap, the efficient use of the meeting came to an end.

Items such as a motion to acknowledge Mi'kmaq territory and reports from members of the DSU executives were all tabled, bringing the four-hour meeting to an end.

A Spanish Society Soirée

Daniel Boltinsky
Copy Editor

The girls wore cocktail dresses and salsa'd as if possessed by an occult hand at the Student Union Building last Friday. La Velada, or The Soiree en Inglés, was like your big high school dance recital but more sexy, and more latin. Flamenco practitioners, corrido musicians, and capoeira dancers from the farthest reaches of the HRM gathered on Room 3060's stage. It was sold out and organizers turned some eager beavers away. They left dejected and broken, foreknowing the long, lonesome march through the cold night awaiting them.

For those with a ticket the fiesta was on. The Dalhousie/Kings Spanish Society (DKSS) prepared the event since September.

"We wanted to make it something more special," says Lisa Godde, VP of the DKSS and performance coordinator for the on-campus event. "Since it's also a big event, like 250 people, we thought [the SUB] was a nice location."

The lineup included dance and music performances by Free to Move Dance School, the Dal Capoeira Club, and El Encuentro. Food included quiche and salad, drinks included everything, and a photo booth had a mariachi hat to wear while having your photo taken.

After sampling the full range of beverages, cuisines and sombreros, I took to the 100-deep dance-floor for the free salsa lesson.



The salsa tutorial gave way to a dance party, and the whole thing finished up around midnight – the SUB's closing time.

Elizabeth Stoten is a fourth-year Spanish and English student for whom La Velada is a first.

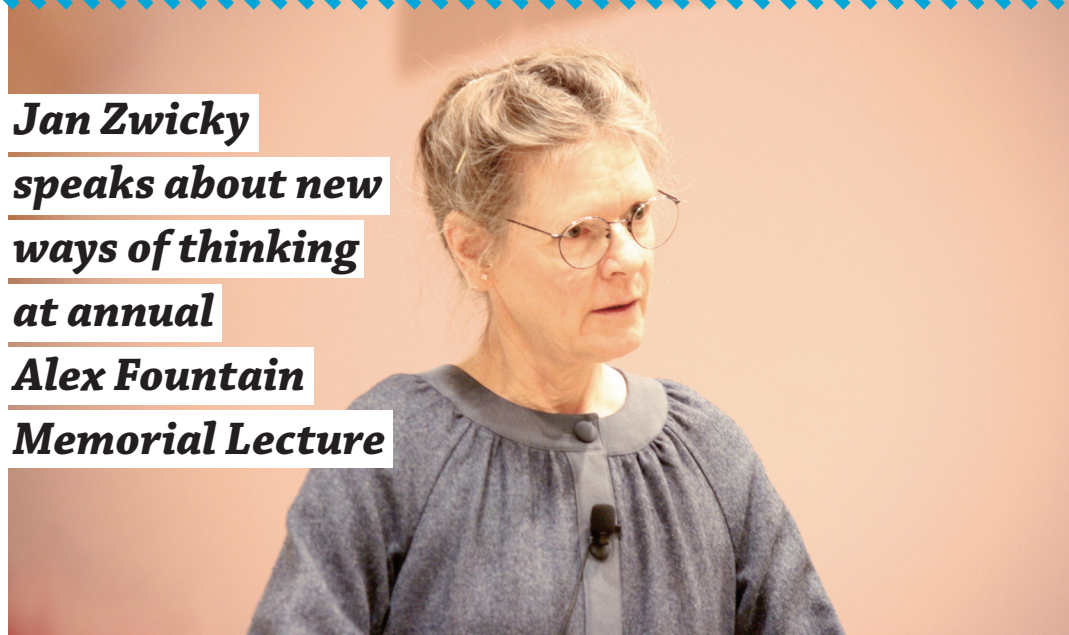
"The Spanish department at Dal is really friendly. It's a really nice, close knit department." She said. "Halifax as a city isn't the most thriving spot for Spanish speakers, but there are a good many and they're there if you want to find out more."

If you – like Elizabeth Stoten every year before this one – missed La Velada, you still have a chance to get your groove on with Dal's Spanish Society. Last November, they threw a World Music Dance Party at the Greenwood in collaboration with Engineers Without Borders and IDEAS.

"This semester we want to do it again because it was a huge success," said Godde. Expect all sorts of exotic melodies from Bollywood to Raggaeton – this one's not just Spanish.

CHANGING THE WAY WE THINK

Jan Zwicky
speaks about new
ways of thinking
at annual
Alex Fountain
Memorial Lecture



Jan Zwicky. ••• Photo by John Last

John Last
 News Contributor

Jan Zwicky isn't sure we have the time. But if we are doomed as a species, she says, we should at least go down with integrity. Zwicky delivered these remarks last Thursday to an enraptured audience of students, scholars, and benefactors in the University of King's College's Alumni Hall, gathered for the annual Alex Fountain Memorial Lecture.

The lecture was founded in 2011 in honour of former King's student Alex Fountain, who died by suicide in 2009. Since his death, the Fountain family has provided funding for mental health services, educational initiatives and the arts.

The subject of her lecture – “What Meaning Is and Why It Matters” – challenged her audience to embrace a way of thinking she calls the “lyric”, which she describes as “thinking in love with clarity.”

When we perceive gestalts or “highly integrated wholes” – the moments when we detect a pattern in a sequence, hum a tune without knowing the notes, or see a face in the leaves of a tree – we are using our lyric perception, she says.

This kind of knowing allows us to grasp meaningful concepts of “ecological wholes”, such as poetic ideas like truth, beauty, and love.

More of this thinking, she argues, can challenge the alienating effects of the kind of analytic

thinking that sees “art as entertainment, morality as a cost-benefit analysis, education as for a job, native wisdom for superstition, and our ecology as merely resources.”

Her lecture ended with an impassioned plea for her audience to embrace this kind of thinking before it is too late.

“Violence is being done to reality,” she said. “Meaning is being abused.” Any hope for its recovery, she said, depends on embracing the validity of lyric experience.

“I’m not sure we have the time. I’m not sure we have the will. But I wish us all strength, courage, and luck.”

“I’m not sure we have the time,” she said. “I’m not sure we have the will. But I wish us all strength, courage and luck.”

Her approach to thinking makes her somewhat of an outsider in the philosophical community, which overwhelmingly favours the analytic approach she criticises.

“One of the things that is characteristic about this culture is the way that ideologically it margin-

alizes lyric comprehension,” she said.

“Institutionalized philosophy ... doesn’t see me as working on core problems,” she said. “They don’t even see me as a philosopher.”

Nonetheless, her 2003 philosophical work *Wisdom & Metaphor*, a follow-up to her groundbreaking *Lyric Philosophy*, was shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award for Nonfiction.

She is currently at work on a third book in this series, which combines her own philosophical statements with quotes, musical scores, and images that inspired or “resonated” with her ideas.

Her newest collection of essays, *Alkibiades’ Love*, was released this year to critical acclaim.

Zwicky, in addition to her independent scholarship, is a poet and environmental advocate. Her works of poetry and short fiction are among the winners and nominees for the Governor General’s Award and Griffin Poetry Prize.

Her two-day visit to the college also involved a reading in the university chapel of some of her most celebrated poetic work.

Students nominated Zwicky last winter to speak at the college for the Fountain Lecture, which brings prominent individuals and leading scholars to King’s each year. Previous speakers have included former governor general Michaëlle Jean, political philosopher Charles Taylor, and writer Michael Ondaatje.

A mandatory class

DSU proposes a mandatory equity course in response to dentistry scandal



Sabina Wex
Assistant News Editor

The DSU needed to respond to the dentistry scandal. Jennifer Nowoselski, VP (Internal), put together a statement after talking with levied societies about their thoughts on how to reduce sexism and misogyny on campus.

Another statement was compiled with input from DSU councillors and executives, faculty members and South House.

Both statements recommended a variety of options, but the most radical is the suggestion of a mandatory equity course for all students and faculty.

The course would discuss “the root causes of gender-based violence and oppression.” In a later interview with the *Gazette*, DSU VP (Academic and External) Jacqueline Skiptunis said she isn’t sure how the course will look or when it will come to fruition — it was just a recommendation.

She said it will not be implemented in the 2015/16 school year.

Skiptunis said the DSU has looked at a number of options for the set-up of the course. It could be an online module, or a completely new lecture. She also said that the credit could come from taking a number of already existing courses, within faculties like Gender and Women’s Studies or International Development Studies.

Skiptunis has looked at other schools that have implemented a mandatory equity course. She cited York University

in Toronto as the most concrete example of a school responding to sexism and misogyny with a mandatory equity course.

In 2012, the York Federation of Students (YFS) proposed a mandatory gender and women’s studies course for every student, as a response to a slew of sexual assaults occurring on campus.

Eva Karpinski, a gender and women’s studies professor at York, said in a podcast with the York newspaper, *Excalibur*, that she didn’t think a mandatory course in gender and women’s studies would be beneficial for York students. She said a more effective way would be for the YFS to encourage non-violent and oppressive behaviour on campus.

Karpinski said via online correspondence that the idea of a mandatory equity course has been abandoned by the YFS in favour of a more integrated course in general education requirement courses.

Some councillors have been vocal about their own hesitations toward this approach of fighting sexism and misogyny at Dalhousie.

Dalhousie Undergraduate Engineering Society president Branwen Price says that engineers already take engineering law and ethics courses, and that their history of engineering course also talks about ethics.

Price added that engineering students are held to a higher standard than other undergraduate degrees because their degrees are professional degrees. Most engineering students go straight into

leadership positions in engineering after they graduate from Dalhousie.

“I was worried that this [equity course] would just be another course that engineers need to take, and then everyone starts resenting it because instead of having six courses per semester, you now have seven,” Price said, “At six, you’re overwhelmed, at seven, you don’t know what to do.”

Price said she already attended meetings with the dean and faculty of engineering to discuss the dentistry scandal before the DSU meeting. Like dentistry, engineering is a professional, male-dominated faculty. Price said that everyone wants to ensure that no sexist or misogynistic situations occur within engineering.

Engineering is in the midst of creating a student code of ethics to ensure that students know the consequences of unacceptable behaviour — and have no excuse to transgress these guidelines.

“We as a faculty know we need to do more,” Price said, “and we as a student society, we know that we need to lead the way because if it’s something that’s made by students for students, they’re going to be a lot more receptive than if it’s just the hammer came down from Dalhousie because dentistry screwed up.”

Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) president Catrina Brown also said she doesn’t think a mandatory equity course is the best way to change attitudes toward misogyny and sexism on campus.

The DFA has a broad statement about these sorts of behaviours occurring in the collective agreement for its members. Article 17 says: “To be fair to their students, to foster a free exchange of ideas to avoid unjust or improper discriminator and to avoid any exploitation of students or other employees.”

In faculty orientation packages, there is information about article 17. Brown said that the DFA sees its first priority as ensuring that faculty work in a safe environment.

Brown recommends that departments examine their faculty: do they have diverse students and faculty members? Does their content relate to diversity and equity? If not, how can they improve that?

“Departments and units need to be responsible for that [which they teach] themselves,” Brown said, “rather than here is a course you must take.”

Skiptunis said that she understands why people aren’t thrilled with the idea of a mandatory equity course, bringing up points articulated by Price and Brown.

However, she said she is upset that the one thing that came out of that DSU meeting to try and discuss how to try to ensure that sexism and misogyny don’t continue to happen on campus, and all people can talk about is having to take another course.

“If you have to defend why having a background in this is important as a human being,” Skiptunis said, “then we have a bit

of a problem, then you’re proving a need for this.”

Not only at DSU meetings was there backlash toward trying to fight sexism and misogyny, but also at senate meetings. Skiptunis said that many departments don’t want to admit that sexism and misogyny occur within their own faculties.

“We will be sexist, we will be racist, we will be homophobic, we’ve been raised to be that way in different aspects of society — we just know it’s going to happen,” she said.

“We will be sexist, we will be racist, we will be homophobic, we’ve been raised to be that way in different aspects of society—we just know it’s going to happen!”

“If we take the advantage of the fact that we have a university community that’s open to learning, open to addressing these things in a careful, dedicated way, we can admit that our whole faculty is sexist and do something about it.”

Behind the scenes of the 2015-2016 academic calendar

Figuring out the finer points of the course selection process

Tegan Samija
News Contributor

Scheduled to be released on March 9, this year's academic calendar requires a lot more planning and detailing than meets the eye.

"It's really hard," says Anthony Enns, who has been acting as the department of English's undergraduate coordinator for the past few months.

Pulling out a thick copy of this year's calendar, he explains he is responsible for updating course descriptions and names. Each professor will submit copies of their courses' descriptions. These descriptions, however, often need to be modified for courses with multiple instructors, since the descriptions can vary enormously between each professor.

The names of the courses are also very important because they can either confuse or clarify the content for students.

For example, Enns once taught a course called Popular Culture and Modernity, but renamed it Culture Studies because it studies debates among theorists of pop culture.

Students have often taken courses on contemporary drama without realizing 'contemporary' referred to Post-WWII literature.

**Students have often
taken courses on
contemporary drama
without realizing
'contemporary' referred to
post-WWII literature.**

Enns' updates to the calendar have included a variety of substitutions, such as replacing 'contemporary' with 'late 20th century' and 'modern' with 'early 20th

century'.

"It makes them sound less interesting but it's clearer," says Enns.

Dal does not have the expensive software required to generate the academic timetable electronically, so Enns drew up three different versions of the department's schedule before the fourth was used. Creativity is required as class sizes increase and classrooms are often in high demand.

This year has also seen much debate among the Council of Chairs and faculty deans about adding a Fall Reading Week, moving the current reading week to later in February, and changing the start date of the winter semester.

Instructors whose classes are disrupted by holidays frequently have expressed their frustration, causing some to propose a rotating system in which courses would be held at a variety of days and times during the week.

Professor Lindsay DuBois, the acting department chair for the department of sociology and social anthropology, advises students to stay tuned for several new courses in the 2015-2016 calendar.



We're hiring!

We're recruiting new editors to manage the Gazette next year. It's not too late to consider applying! Check out dalgazette.com/hiring for more details.

AGM!

The tentative date for our annual general meeting is March 23, 2015. We'll elect a hiring board candidate, vote on some policy-proofing updates to our constitution, and there will be pizza. For more info as it's available, see the front page of dalgazette.com.



www.dalgazette.com
The SUB, Room 312
editor@dalgazette.com



OPEN HOUSE

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Halifax and Dalhousie University are developing a pilot project to install and study protected bike lanes along the north and south sides of University Avenue from Robie Street to LeMarchant Street.

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You must be 19 years old in Nova Scotia.

If you're arrested for public intoxication, you'll get a **\$130.45** ticket AND a stay in the drunk tank.

Halifax Police will be on and around campus enforcing these bylaws and you will be ticketed.

Have fun on St. Paddy's Day but be respectful to your neighbours. Whether they're families with young children, elderly couples, or people who do shift work, they deserve not to be unreasonably disturbed. Don't be that student who takes away from all the great work we've done to make Dalhousie such a great place in our community.

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dal.ca/think



Calling All Professional and Graduate Students: **It's Time for a New Union**

Law Students' Society President proposes new representation for professional and graduate students.



Students outside Dal's Weldon Law Building in February 2014. ••• Photo by Melina Garner

Anthony Rosborough
Opinions Contributor

Fellow Professional and Graduate Students, we are all currently members of the Dalhousie Student Union.

We can do better.

We can have a leaner, more relevant, more accountable organization that puts the unique needs and concerns of professional and graduate students first. We need greater investment in library resources, laboratory equipment, research tools and greater pressure on the university's administration to make such investments. We need greater institutional support for professional accreditation and career planning.

In April of 2014, student representatives from the Faculties of Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Architecture and the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students met to discuss alternatives to DSU membership. After much

work and collaborative thinking, we recognized the need for further consultation, and gave the DSU the opportunity to be more accountable over the 2014-2015 year. Despite some well-intentioned executive members, the DSU has failed us yet again.

In its relentless and obsessive agenda to rid itself of membership in external advocacy organizations, the DSU has rendered itself unable to represent us. The disconnect between what DSU insiders have come to recognize as their rallying cause and the actual needs of students has precluded the organization from garnering more than 10 per cent of the student vote in its yearly elections. The nepotism that has accrued has provided a minuscule fraction of the student population with immense decision-making authority, rewarding abuse of procedure, checks and balances, and created an incentive to ensure that neither you nor I are paying too close attention.

Folks, our hard work and fees deserve more

respect than this. If the DSU cannot take our interests to heart and pursue them effectively, it should perish. Let's put a stop to our money being used to fund meritless and illusory campaigns stitched together by armchair politicians and reckless polemics. Our *raison d'être* should be one of practicality and the realization of outcomes rather than a recital of empty principle. Let's take control of our fair share of the \$2.3-million dollars that the DSU oversees in its budget and put it to bettering the lives of students.

I hope you will share your thoughts with me at the Annual General Meeting.

Anthony Rosborough is the President of the Dalhousie Law Students' Society, and will be motioning for a discussion on Professional and Graduate Student secession at the DSU's Annual General Meeting on March 31.

5 Terrible Excuses Not To Run In The DSU Elections

A former candidate dispels fears and misconceptions about running in the DSU elections.

John Hillman
Opinions Editor

The nominations for the 2015 DSU elections have opened. Admit it — a part of you has entertained the fantasy of maybe, just maybe, throwing your hat into the ring this upcoming election cycle.

Do it.

I don't mean to pressure you. It's just that I know from experience how fun campaigning can be.

I've run in two DSU elections myself, proposing such visionary initiatives as relocating the Arc de Triomphe to the corner of Lemarchant and University and starting a nuclear arms program to improve our bargaining power in tuition negotiations. Sure, I was a joke candidate and I was absolutely massacred both times, but I know enough about life inside the campaign bubble that I would highly recommend the experience to anyone who has even the slightest temptation.

I know the process seems daunting. You are nervous. You have excuses. Let me strip them away, one by one, until you have no choice but to embark on the path to becoming Dal's version of Arvind Kejriwal!

(You know...the Indian statesman who led the upstart Aam Aadmi Party to a historic landslide victory in the Delhi state elections?)

(The headline-grabbing elections that took place three weeks ago, in the second largest country in the world?)

(Okay, screw it. Dalhousie's version of 2008 Obama, before he looked so tired all of the time. Let's move on.)

Excuse #1: "I don't know how to get on the ballot!"

It's easier than you'd think. You need to submit nomination papers signed by 25 current Dal students by 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6. This means you have around 12 hours at most to nominate yourself if the current date is March 6, 2015. Otherwise, this advice applies to next year.

This shouldn't be a problem. People will sign anything. It's kind of scary, actually. Maybe a quarter of the people will ask you why you are running. Don't panic — they'll probably still sign your papers, no matter what you say. When I ran, I simply told the truth — that I was trolling the DSU. Talking exclusively to complete strangers, I managed to collect 40 signatures in 45 minutes on a Friday morning during reading week. Again, people will sign anything.

Excuse #2: "I'm awkward!"

I can sympathize. I'm no social butterfly either. Randomly approaching that first stranger to talk about the DSU can be extremely awkward. The thing is, most people are actually pretty nice. If you're campaigning outside the SUB, odds are good you're the first DSU ambassador they've talked to since orientation week. You'll run into a lot of ignorance of the DSU (or outright contempt), but people will generally respect you for trying to reach out to them. With every positive conversation you have, it's going to get easier to approach the next person.

Bonus tip: Blaming the incumbent executives for everything wrong within 200 nautical miles of Nova Scotia is a great conversation starter.

VOTE
John Hillman
Integrity. Dialogue. Collaboration.
(These are but a few of your pathetic human ideals that mean nothing to John Hillman.)



www.votehillman.ca

Excuse #3: "I don't have any cash to run a campaign!"

No candidates are allowed to spend more than \$200. The DSU will give you an advance for up to \$200 in expenses. If you earn more than 20 per cent of the vote in a two-way race, or 10 per cent of the vote in a three-way race, you don't even have to pay the money back.

The thing is, campaigns don't really cost that much anyway. The most effective campaigning technique, simply talking to people, is absolutely free.

(Note: The second most effective campaigning technique—planting dealer-sized quantities of illegal narcotics on your rivals and phoning in anonymous tips to Crime Stoppers—will likely require you to exceed the campaign spending limit, and should thus be avoided.)

Excuse #4: "No one knows who I am!"

It's true these elections tend to be dominated by insiders, and that insiders tend to campaign and vote for their friends. Every now and then though, some unknown breaks through with the voters and shocks the pundits. Back in 2009, for example, underdogs Mark Hobbs and Edgar Burns both ran remarkable campaigns. They hit the ground running immediately, and talked with as many students as humanly possible. Their work paid off. Mark shocked everyone by squeaking in as VP (internal) with 50.9 per cent of the vote. Edgar, despite being younger than everyone else, having no campaign team, and being an absolute unknown before the election started, managed to hustle his way to almost 40 per cent of the vote against one of the most popular, prepared, and qualified candidates I've ever seen. (Edgar also ended up sticking around the DSU, eventually becoming the VP (Finance) in 2012.)

It's also worth remembering that turnout in 2009 was 16 per cent. Only 10.8 per cent of people voted in the last election, so if that depressing trend keeps up, you should be able to put yourself into the mix by simply camping out for a few minutes next to the Tim Horton's lineup in the SUB.

Excuse #5: "I don't have enough experience!"

I hate to be the one to disillusion you, but running the DSU isn't rocket science. You are smart enough to make it to university. You've probably read a few thousand pages worth of dense academic textbooks so far this year. You can definitely catch up on the issues facing the DSU with a few days worth of prep.

Footage of every DSU council meeting since the start of 2013 is available on the DSU's YouTube channel. If you don't have 110 hours to spare, the *Gazette* has done a pretty good job of synthesizing that content for you. We write about the DSU a lot — Jesse, our editor-in-chief, recently won a national journalism award for his meticulous DSU coverage. If you have any further questions, send me an email — I'd be more than happy to sit down for a coffee and subject you to a breathless 75-minute rant that, if somewhat lacking in coherence, nonetheless highlights the horrifying mental consequences of prolonged exposure to DSU politics.

So there you have it. You can do this. I believe in you. Just think: with a little courage and a lot of hard work, 12 months from now it could be YOU who all the opportunistic candidates will be throwing under the bus to win the support of those shiftless, ungrateful voters.

Good luck!

Don't Go With The Tax On Our Flow

Taxes on menstrual products unfairly discriminate against women.



Shannon Slade
Staff Contributor

So, I was sitting around tonight watching ‘Sherlock’ and eating a luxurious double chocolate brownie with a rich caramel drizzled over the melt in your mouth cream cheese icing. What can I say; I’m an emotional eater who needs a succulent dessert to deal with my monogamy-melting desire for Sherlock Holmes. Anyway, during one of those strangely less interesting scenes not featuring Benedict Cumberbatch, an article on CBC caught my eye on the laptop next to me. It was about the fact that over 50,000 people had signed a petition calling on the government to end the federal tax on tampons. I read it, and found that I had a lot to think about.

See, I had just made those delicious sex-substitute brownies. I went to the store and bought every horribly unhealthy ingredient to make something utterly luxurious and decadent, and I wasn’t taxed on any of those ingredients. On the other hand, checking out my receipt, it turns out that the only thing I WAS taxed on was a “luxury” item that prevents me from bleeding all over myself and looking like someone shot me in the ass.

Don’t get me wrong: I believe there shouldn’t be any taxes on food. It’s a necessity and I think all necessities should be tax free—emphasis on the ALL. Menstrual products should be included. Why should women be taxed for something as crucial to our way of life as tampons, pads, and other menstrual products?

In the past, there have been attempts to take away the tax, but they all seem to have faded into oblivion. That’s why this petition’s success is so important, we need to take a stand on this. We live in an era where people in authority will bend, contort and do any number of bold and stupid things when Twit-

ter gets mad at them — let’s harness this awesome power in the name of a cause that is perfectly defined, easily achievable, and unquestionably fair.

The petition states that the government has made over \$36,000,000 this year from its tax on menstrual products. Whether that number is the case or not, the government has made a lot of money off of our bodies over the years, and I cannot help but feel that as women who need menstrual products to function in a society that already demands nothing short of perfection in our appearance, we’ve been legally exploited by a succession of governments that have not respected us enough to consider taking this tax away.

This petition is important. We need to sign it, even mail it to our government representatives directly if possible. We need to make them see that this issue will not fade away as it has before, that we don’t want them making money off of our bodies, and that menstrual products are a vital necessity to our lives and not just a taxable ‘beauty product’ as it said on my most recent receipt from the Atlantic Superstore.

(Out of curiosity, given that they are classified as beauty products, when was the last time anyone ever complimented you on your tampon? What does a tampon compliment even sound like? “My, the way that tampon prevents you from bleeding all over your lower extremities REALLY brings out your eyes!”)

If you feel like I do, please go to www.change.org/p/no-tax-on-tampons-a-campaign-to-remove-the-gst-charged-on-menstruation-products-sign-the-petition, and let the government know that cashing in on the natural bodily functions of half the population is simply unacceptable.

From the Archives: Addressing Apathy

John Hillman
Opinions Editor

The nomination period leading up to the start of the DSU elections is a unique stage in our yearly academic cycle. Gazette staff and the student politicians they cover take a moment before the storm that is campaign week to reflect on student engagement. The conclusion is the same every year—we need to find a way to strengthen our democracy and boost voter turnout!

Over the years we've tried a variety of strategies in response to this issue: pep-talks, humour, increased coverage, banning election by acclamation, and even the wholesale sacking of underperforming elections committees.



Volume 59, Issue 15 – February 27, 1927

"Editorials"

Volume 42,
Issue 6 – March 1, 1910

All Dalhousie societies are, or should be, democratic. If you want to run a society out, try to run it yourself. The moment students feel that they have not a full say in the affairs of a society, at that moment the society will begin to decline. But often the student takes the wrong view of the affair. The society is as much yours as anybody's and the way to help it is not to withdraw your support when the other fellow tries to "shelve" you, but to come out and have your say.

The time has come for the election of officers for the next year for the various societies. Now this is mostly done in a, haphazard manner. "Nomination," "second," and "nomination cease," follow so quickly that one scarcely realizes till it is all over that he has had no share in the election. Then comes the kick. Start right, now, nominate the man you want, and then you can't complain.

"Gazette Will Publish Names of Council Candidates"

Volume 59, Issue 15 – February 17, 1927

The names of all candidates for the Council will appear in the next Gazette.

Realizing that the Council vote is much smaller than it should be largely because the voters do not know all the candidates, The Gazette will publish their names and so give students a chance to find out who they are. This will only be possible if Nomination Day proceedings are prompt.

Student interest is beginning to focus on the approaching Council elections. Nomination Day is Tuesday; the election a week later. It is hard to ascribe the increased interest of this

year to any particular thing. No doubt it is another expression of the high-tide of enthusiasm and success which is sweeping the college.

It is partly also that students, to the credit of recent Councils, are beginning to realize the importance of the Council, which controls every university activity. There was a time when a seat on the Council was regarded merely as an honour—the election was a popularity contest. That time is gone: students now know that there is a duty on every member of the Council to show an active interest in the affairs of the university and to devote energy and thought to advancing student interests.

Those are the reasons why the approaching elections are going to be an intelligence test instead of a popularity contest.

The interest shown makes it safe to predict for March 1 a record vote. Usually the vote, particularly in a large polling division like Arts, is smaller than one would expect. This is due partly to the fact that very few voters know all the candidates: generally when a voter does not know the candidates he wisely refrains from voting.

Publication of the candidates' names will obviate this difficulty, which never occurs in a municipal, provincial, or federal election, but is due to the modesty of our candidates. Students will make it their business to find out what those names stand for—what the candidates are and what are their abilities. That will be easy.

"Where Have The Leaders Gone?"

Editorial – Volume 99, Issue 16 – February 2, 1967

Where have the leaders gone? Next weeks student council elections should prove to be almost as big a farce as last year's. After the process of natural selection has taken place within the present council, an heir-apparent will be named to ascend to the throne. If no one comes forward from the gray amorphous mass, which constitutes the student body, the machine will be forced to put up its own opposition.

The constitution rules out the possibility of the Student Union president being selected by acclamation. Last year when Robbie Shaw stepped down as president and named John Young to

follow, there was a real scramble to find some opposition.

The day nominations were to close two victims were found to run as presidential and vice-presidential candidates against the 'favorite-sons' ticket. They were slaughtered in the vote.

After it was all over, one of the put-up candidates made the perceptive comment: "The campaign did smell a bit. I guess it did look like a set up election."

The same thing could happen this year unless some of the ambitious members of council refuse to play the game. The potential is there if the individuals are willing to make the effort.

What is really needed to put some life back in Dalhousie student affairs are some candidates from outside the present council. People that don't have the civil servant mentality and are willing to try some new - yes, revolutionary ideas.

King's college president Wayne Hankey made the suggestion several weeks ago when interviewed by the Gazette that what was needed at Dalhousie was to break the present council up into smaller more viable units.

The existence of residential colleges on the Dal campus, he reasoned, would allow the student body to identify with its representatives and enter into the decision making.

There is little doubt that ideas work for King's. (...) Unfortunately, here at Dalhousie we believe in the blob. The bigger blob the better it has to be. This is one example of a revolutionary idea that could be championed at Dal.

If there are any true leaders at Dalhousie, now is the time for them to come forward and lead.



Volume 102, Issue 19 - Feb 23, 1970

"DSU Elections Committee Resigns"

Ralph English - Volume 116, Issue 16 - January 26, 1984.

All five members of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) Elections Committee resigned as of January 22 and student council chair Steve Coughlan has since been ratified as the new Chief Returning Officer.

Coughlan said nominations for DSU president and vice president (internal) will open January 30 and close February 17 in preparation for March 7-9 elections.

Nominations were originally scheduled for January 9-23 in preparation for mid-February elections. DSU president Tim Hill said a postponement was necessary since, with only six days of the two-week nomination period remaining, "not enough people knew about the elections." But "the committee's attitude was not one of urgency," said Hill.

The DSU executive precipitated the election committee's resignation by expressing its lack of

confidence in the committee and its chair, former Chief Returning Officer Michael Tilley.

Tilley believes that successful elections could still have been held in February, and says he fails to understand the executive's reasoning.

It would be disappointing to me if the executive were to discourage people from getting involved because of fear of overzealous scrutiny by council." Hill said, "If we extended the deadline there would be 13 days left for the nominations to be open."

He added a further few days would be knocked off for lag time to put up posters announcing the extended deadline.

Elections Committee members Debra Bell, Ginger Ellison, Ann Hutchinson and Cindy Locke were unanimous in their support of Tilley. They felt "honour bound to resign."

Locke was "very surprised" that Tilley's resignation had been called for. "The executive didn't give the committee the chance it deserved," she said.

Following the January 9 opening of nominations, a full page ad had appeared in the Gazette of January 12, and a second ad was prepared for the January 19 edition.

Posters were to be put up and 500 buttons distributed by January 18.

For those who felt the measure was too little too late, Locke points out that there is a constitutional provision which allows for a one week extension of the January 23 deadline.

The new Returning Officer, Steve Coughlan, says the election slogan and buttons developed by the original committee will still be used in the upcoming publicity for nominations.

Hill has expressed disappointment about the postponement of the elections. He said, "The late elections will affect the ability of the next council to get its affairs in order before taking office."

Campus discourages diversity of opinions

Paige Black
Opinions Contributor

There has been lots of discussion at Dalhousie lately about diversity on campus, especially when it comes to gender diversity. Fortunately, we also have many fantastic groups here that promote diversity of ethnicity and sexual orientation with our students—groups such as Dal Get Real and the Pakistani Students Association, to name but the tip of the iceberg.

However, the form of diversity that I haven't heard discussed much on campus is diversity of opinion – and I feel that is because people are simply afraid to speak up because of the culture we've

created here at Dalhousie.

Even though our professors come from different parts of the world, and even though we have both male and female professors, I find their opinions to be very similar.

Many professors express their opinions in a way that makes disagreeing with them sound ridiculous and I don't always feel comfortable sharing my viewpoints in class. Their comments might not be overtly political but they give everyone a chance to laugh at the obvious jab they are taking at whomever believes differently than they do.

As you've probably noticed, the target is most commonly Stephen Harper, or conservatives in general.

Most students jump on board with their professor's way of thinking and I honestly I feel that my classmates treat me differently because of my opinions. I know my professors want to encourage an environment of diverse ideas. Yet, many of them do not realize that their lectures themselves are discouraging students from disagreeing with them, or even starting discussions about alternative ways of thinking. This attitude often seeps out of the classroom, and into our other campus interactions.

While this culture that discourages expression of diversity of opinion is not new, I've felt the frustrating brunt of it in the recent months since my friends and I started the Dalhousie Young Conservatives Society.

Since launching, many students have approached us while we are recruiting on campus (usually sitting at a table in the SUB) to share with us their opinions. Of these, my favorite encounters are when people ask me why I started the society, what the Pro-


gressive Conservatives are up to in Nova Scotia and how they can get involved.

There have been some who didn't want to get involved with the society, whether because they didn't have time, were just not interested or were outright supporters of other political parties. And that is perfectly fine. Their polite refusal to get involved would usually be accompanied by a friendly "good luck" – and move on.

However, not everybody was as polite or gracious. There have been many who came up to me just to tell me why, in their words, that they "would never vote conservative". That is, of course their right, and I certainly love having discussions with people who disagree with me. After all, I am writing this because I think there should be MORE diversity of opinion. However, approaching a stranger just so that you can lecture them about how awful their opinions are, without letting the other person say a word edgewise, is not, respectful, meaningful discussion – its rude; and it does nothing to further either democracy or diversity on campuses.

It's saddening that my polit-

ical beliefs could lead people to think negatively of me. I have a great deal of personal respect for anyone who is engaged in politics, no matter their party. That is why while putting together a Women in Politics event at Dalhousie this March 17th, I have insisted on making the event multi-partisan, so that we are encouraging all women to get involved, no matter their beliefs. We will be thrilled to have both the Federal Minister for the Status of Women, the Conservative MP Kellie Leitch, and the Provincial Minister for the Status of Women, the Liberal MLA Joanne Bernard attending the event to speak and answer questions. I have enjoyed working with Liberal and NDP students on campus in putting together this event and I hope that our efforts will help show students at Dalhousie that diversity of opinion can make our campus a better place for all.



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Three Sisters debuts off-campus

Director Joe Johnson on leading the stage for the first time



Joe Johnson (far left) and some of the show's crew. ••• Photo by Mat Wilush

Mat Wilush
Arts Editor

In a recently converted bus terminal, accessible through a side door off a driveway on Almon Street, the lives of three Soviet-era sisters play out on stage. A Dalhousie Theatre Society production, *Three Sisters* is a rendition of Anton Chekov's drama, and is fourth-year theatre student Joe Johnson's directorial debut.

"Going in, it was kind of on a whim," says Johnson. "It was the day before the proposals were due, and I thought, 'I should try directing something.' Then I hyper-ventilated a lot over winter break. And now we're here."

I like the themes of decay in the play. The thing about *Three Sisters* is that none of the characters really go through an arc. It's more like, everything that has happened to them has already happened, and everything is starting to solidify. They're crystallizing into the people that they're going to become the rest of their lives."

Because of the overbooked state of theatre space at Dal, production of *Three Sisters* took place entirely off-campus, at the new theatre space, The Waiting Room. While this made production a little more complicated for a first-time director, Johnson was quick to note some of the advantages in producing off-campus; namely, the building of industry contacts and connections that could not necessarily be made in the campus bubble.

Three Sisters opened on the last weekend of February to a surprisingly large audience. The Waiting Room can only seat approximately 50, so Johnson had to turn some latecomers away at the door. While the second day of performances had

yet to conclude at the time of this writing, Johnson was very optimistic about the upcoming performances.

"I said beforehand that I'd be really happy if only five people showed up, so I'd call this a success. From what I heard back here [back stage], there were no major fuck-ups, which is what I go for. I think things can only go up from here."

Wrapping up *Three Sisters*, Johnson is eager to test out his newfound directorial skills in a new, more challenging production.

"This was my first time directing, so I tried to keep everything pretty basic. I want to do one next year – *Phaedra's Love* – with lots of on-stage sex and violence, so we'll see how that goes."

"This was my first time directing, so I tried to keep everything pretty basic. I want to do one next year – Phaedra's Love – with lots of on-stage sex and violence, so we'll see how that goes."

GET A LOAD OF THIS!

AN INTRO TO ORAL SEX

Rosalie Fralick
Staff Contributor

You want to go down on your partner. You've read the confusing online how-to. You're not really sure if spelling things out with your tongue is going to work. You're more confused than ever and you're not even sure if you want someone's junk in your mouth. What now?

Getting down with vaginas

Before you go down on your vagina-having partner, it's always a good idea to check in and see what they personally like. But if you're looking for a starting point, here are some standard tips that might be useful for inspiration.

Wash up first. Wash your hands and brush your teeth. It's basically like your standard bedtime routine. If you're unsure of your partner's STI status consider using gloves and/or a dental damn.

Don't just treat your tongue like a tiny penis. Tongues have a lot more agility than penises do and you can take advantage of that by licking gently, slowly, quickly, in small motions, in circular motions, and just about any other way you can think of. And yes, some people do like the sensation of words being spelt out with a tongue.

Recognize that the clitoris is your friend; of course it makes sense to focus attention there - licking, sucking, kissing, etc. That said, if that's the only thing you're doing, it might get a little bit boring. You can put your fingers inside your partner, run your tongue along your partner's vulva, and kiss their inner thighs.

Getting down with penises

Before your mouth should be going near a person's penis, ask them about what they're into. If they're not sure, or you're both looking to get creative or make things better, keep reading.

You're going to want to brush your teeth and wash your hands. Realistically,

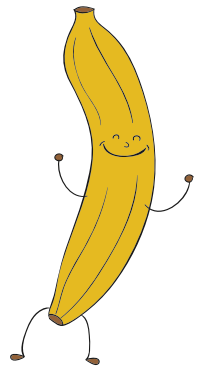
being unclean is a huge turn-off and you don't want to make things unpleasant before you've even started. If you're not sure of your partner's STI status, condoms and gloves are excellent options for safer sex.

Most people with penises are going to prefer if you keep your teeth out of the way. This is the best starter tip I can give you. When you're putting your mouth on a penis you can use your lips, your tongue, your cheek, whatever works, but try to avoid teeth.

We all hear a lot about "deep-throating" and the truth is, some people like that, but like anything else it can get boring, and some people find it uncomfortable. Other options can include sucking on the tip of the penis, running your tongue in figure eights along the shaft, or sucking on your partner's testicles.

Is it working?

Check for verbal and non-verbal signals from your partner as you go indicating what they like and don't like. Are they moaning? Saying yes repeatedly? Telling you to keep going? Awesome! Are they giving direction or making requests? Hear your partner's needs and respond to them. And if they're saying no, stop, wait, or giving any other indication, stop what you're doing and check in with what they need and want.



This rose petal makes me feel weird. ••• Photos from Pixabay



The Khyber turns 20

A Brief Retrospective

Paola Tolentino
Staff Contributor

Nineteen-ninety-five was the year that Starbucks introduced the Frappuccino and Forrest Gump won best picture in the Oscars. It's also the year that the Khyber Center for the Arts opened its doors at 1588 Barrington St.

The actual building has been there since 1888, originally serving as an institute for the Church of England. Since then, it has seen many things, including but not limited to: a hostel for WWII officers, Halifax's second gay bar (The Turret), a ballet studio, a youth health clinic, a cinema for the Atlantic film co-op and a health food store. In the 1970's the Khyber Café opened up on the ground floor, and even after the café had closed, the name stuck.

Despite all of its miscellaneous uses over the years, by 1994, the Khyber was listed as unoccupied. The City of Halifax negotiated to give a lease to the group of artists known as the No Money Down Cultural Society.

They proceeded to develop the three-story building into the headquarters of the Arts Center Project Society, an artist-run non-profit organization, and the Khyber

Center for the Arts officially opened. While the building mainly hosted art exhibitions and functioned as a meeting place for both visual artists and Halifax's startup music scene, it also contained a dance club and a bar.

Just last year, the historic building was closed down by the city, due to some much-needed renovations because of evidence of hazardous material on-site. Currently, the Arts Center Project Society is running out of 5521 Cornwallis St., although it's a smaller space than they're used to. The Friends of the Khyber group are eagerly and restlessly advocating for the restoration of the Khyber into a full access public arts hub, and against selling the property as surplus.

Despite being a smaller venue, the Khyber's new Cornwallis location has been busy serving as a gallery and arts space.

On March 21, the Khyber will be hosting their seventh Night Flea Market, which will double as a twentieth birthday party for the society. The market will be held at the Mayflower Curling Club and will carry on late into the night with DJ's, dancing and a massive market of the city's miscellanea.

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Old Heart by Amber Solberg



Dalhousie's Most Eligible Tigers Revisited

More inclusive, more intimate, more Tigers

Jesse Ward
Editor-in-chief

Since 2012, the Sports section of the *Gazette's* annual February Sex & Love issue has included "Dalhousie's Most Eligible Tigers", a popular feature in which a series of intimate profiles expose the love lives of single Dal varsity athletes.

But this year, after issue 147-17 was published on Feb. 13, social work student Harry Makohoniuk pointed out over Twitter that the *Gazette* only includes "the hottest single athletes at Dal" in this feature – this, in the only article we produce all year that is explicitly dedicated to broadcasting the romantic appeal of anyone on campus.

The Most Eligible Tigers feature originated as a way for the Sports section of the paper to participate in our coverage of matters of the heart, and we have many reasons to be proud of Dal's athletes – 2015's Tigers teams won three Atlantic University Sport championships this week. We hope this highlight reel of the personalities on Dal's varsity teams will remain in our sex issue's Sports pages for many years to come.

But Makohoniuk's comments had us considering some important points – if we're going to broadcast the eligibility of only one group of singles on campus, it may seem like they're the only group we're interested in broad-

casting the appeal of. That's not the case at all – and anyone who works or studies on this campus merits the title of "Tiger".

It all comes down to the fact that limiting this feature to athletes is not inclusive. To only focus on athletes is to have a feature that's not representative of Dal's diverse population. There are thousands of eligible Tigers on campus, and if you're involved with Dalhousie in any way, there should be no exclusive groups you must belong to in order for your campus newspaper to feature your value as a partner.

So starting with Makohoniuk we're turning this feature into a column, opening it up to everyone and publishing it year-round.

Are you one of the most eligible Tigers? Should everyone on campus get current on the dateability of members of your student society, faculty, feminist book club, rap collective, etc.?

Send us an email at editor@dal-gazette.com with the title "Most Eligible Tigers", and you too can be featured – but only if you manage to brave the survey.



Harry Makohoniuk

Board Member, South House Sexual & Gender Resource Centre
Social Work

Best date: I went to the beach on this little road trip with an ex, once. It was a really nice day; we kind of just hung out in the sand and then drove back to town.

Worst date: I went on a date with somebody once, where I thought it was going to be us going to dinner, but it was us going to drinks with his friends. Afterwards, he told me he wanted to get me to meet his friends during the date. That was weird for me.

Love at first sight?: Yes.

Most attractive feature you look for: Not taking themselves too seriously. A sense of laughter or humility, humanity.

Your best feature: My laugh, or my hair.

What meal would you could cook to impress a date? Something breakfast-themed, breakfast has always been my go-to. Something like an omelet and some hash browns.

Celebrity crush: Drake. Consistently, Drake's one of my top celebrity crushes.

Worst pickup line you've ever heard? "I'm a pterodactyl, please fuck me." But it worked like one out of three times, which is terrible.

Favourite hookup song: Anything smooth, R&B. Some Usher, maybe.

What makes you Dal's most eligible tiger? I don't know what makes me Dal's most eligible tiger, but I'm really into myself, and I think other people should be too.

Who's Who at CKDU

Two film and music hosts on the 10 Things They Hate About U2

Mat Wilush
Arts Editor

Gazette: Who are you? Where are you from? What are your favorite water and land dwelling animals?

Jeff Lawton: I'm a street walking cheetah with a heart full of napalm from Saint John. The otter is my spirit animal. They dwell on both land and in water. They eat their meals off their belly, and they hold hands while sleeping so that they don't float away from each other.

Darryl Smith: I'm Jeff's handler. I'm 32, and I'll just go with otter, too.

G: How long have you been hosting 10 Things I Hate About U2? What got you started in radio?

JL: I don't remember exactly. April of 2014? I wanted to force people to listen to the music I like.

DS: I've been hosting the show as long as Jeff. I started co-hosting a show with a friend in undergrad at CFRC in Kingston when I realized that you could actually just do whatever you wanted.

G: What have you got against U2?

JL: I love early U2. Darryl hates them. The stretch between The Unforgettable Fire to Achtung Baby is just really special. Post "Pop" era U2 is obviously garbage.

DS: One Word - Bono.

G: Do you ever have difficulty finding appropriate pairings of music and film?

JL: Sometimes the movie and record are complimentary, and there is a lot to discuss for both. Often we're more excited to talk about the movie rather than the record, so our show sometimes dissolves into non sequiturs and fights. Literal fights.

DS: I think that it's almost more fun to have the movie and album be super contradictory - like Love Actually and Metallica - that was a good one.

G: What makes for a good radio show?

JL: I specialize in bad radio. I don't like talking into the microphone, and I like making visual jokes that people don't understand when they listen to our show.

DS: I think the show works best when Jeff and I both like the movie/record but have different takes or perspectives on why it's good. Jeff is a brat when he doesn't like the stuff we're talking about.

G: Why do you do what you do?

JL: I don't understand this question. Like, everything I do? I do this radio show because I like talking about music and movies. I work for a living because I like money. I go to the gym because I'm afraid of dying.

DS: It's fun; makes me watch and listen to stuff I wouldn't normally.



Jeff and Darryl sit like this, sometimes. ••• Photo provided

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North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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The SUB, Room 312

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Tigers claim AUS men's basketball title with thrilling comeback victory over Huskies

Kashrell Lawrence scores 31 points to cap off Tigers' astonishing playoff run

Stephen Campbell
Sports Contributor

Just when it looked like the clock was going to strike midnight on the Dalhousie Tigers' Cinderella run in the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) men's basketball championship, the black and gold managed to find a way to pull through in dramatic fashion, crowning them AUS champions in the process.

Pitted against bitter cross-town rival Saint Mary's in front of a packed house at the Scotiabank Centre, the Tigers found themselves behind at halftime by a score of 41-28 and trailed 60-52 at the end of the third. But as they proved all tournament, Dal came up big when it mattered most. With the scoreboard reading 73-71 in favour of the reigning champion Huskies and 27 sec-

onds on the clock, Ritchie Kanza Mata drained a clutch two point jumper to send the game to overtime.

The seesaw battle continued in OT, but Kanza Mata drained a huge three pointer to put Dal up 82-78. Once Dal grabbed the lead they didn't look back and finished extra time with the score 88-78. The Halifax-based schools put on a show in front of the hometown fans – the proverbial cherry on top of a fantastic weekend cake chalked full of captivating action on the hardwood.

Tournament MVP Kashrell Lawrence finished the matchup with a game-high 31 points and 17 rebounds for the Tigers, while Jarred Reid had 17 and Kanza Mata 16. Brian Rouse led the way in the losing effort for SMU with 21 points.

On the heels of back-to-back

come-from-behind victories, the fifth-seeded Tigers (who finished the season with a 10-10 record) successfully conjured up the same kind of second half magic that they had in the previous two days of the tournament.

Riding a wave of momentum in the wake of Kashrell Lawrence's buzzer-beater over Friday's quarterfinal clash with Cape Breton, the black and gold raised quite a few eyebrows by stunning the No. 8 nationally ranked UNB Varsity Reds 85-74 in the semis thanks in large part to a phenomenal fourth quarter.

Next up for head coach Rick Plato's crew is a trip to Toronto for the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) men's basketball championships on Mar. 12 with the aspirations of claiming the school's first ever national title.

Plato pointed to a speech by

Canadian Olympic bobsled gold medalist Heather Moyse at the league's banquet as a major motivating factor for his team.

"The first thing I'm going to do is get them all to write [Moyse] a thank you letter," said Plato. "Her speech hit a nerve for a lot of our guys. She spoke about triumphing in the face of adversity – something we've had a lot of this year."

"It looked pretty bleak for us in all three games, but we dug deep and rose to the occasion when we needed to."

With his teammates engrossed in jubilation around him, Reid reiterated the laser focus the Tigers displayed on accomplishing their goals in the face of adversity.

"We had one mentality coming into the playoffs and it was to make one more play, take one

more step, win one more game and make it to the finals and that's where we made it count," said point guard Jarred Reid.

It's important to point out just how far the school's basketball program has come in a very short time. Coming off a 2013-14 campaign where they went 6-14 and missed the playoffs in the first year of the Plato era, few could have predicted the squad's deep postseason run and were an afterthought by many heading into the tournament.

Amazingly, Dal only has one graduating player on the roster (John Traboulsi), meaning the tight-knit group is primed to parlay this year's championship experience into what could very well be the start of a dynasty for years to come at Atlantic Canada's largest university.



Tigers beat the Huskies for AUS Mens Basketball title. ••• Photos by Jennifer Gosnell

Huskies women's basketball wins third-straight AUS championship with win over UPEI

SMU's Laura Langille led the way with 17 points and ten rebounds in the win



SMU Huskies beat UPEI Panthers 57-50 for AUS title. ••• Photos by Jennifer Gosnell

Jessica Flower
Sports Contributor

Third time's the charm for the Huskies.

Saint Mary's women's basketball team defeated the University of Prince Edward Island Panthers 57-50 to claim the AUS title, keeping their winning streak alive for another year.

The Panthers, who made it to the finals after defeating the first-ranked Tigers in the semifinals, entered the game with confidence. With UPEI's and Saint Mary's past two meetings resulting in a win for each team, it was bound to be a close game. In the first matchup of the season, the UPEI Panthers handed last year's undefeated champs their first loss to break a ten-game winning streak.

The first quarter started off slow, with both the Huskies and Panthers each putting up a single basket in the first five minutes.

UPEI's strong defence kept the Huskies from scoring, but it was their poor field goal percentage, just 11 per cent, that kept them from pulling ahead. SMU was slow on the boards, which UPEI took full advantage of, driving the ball back to outshoot the Huskies 18-12. The quarter wrapped up with SMU leading by just one.

Even if it didn't seem possible, shooting was even worse for UPEI in the second quarter. Their field goal percentage dropped to a mere eight per cent, sinking only three of 30 attempts, bringing their first half shooting percentage down to ten. The Panthers' saving grace was their foul point conversion rate, which amounted to more than half of their total 16 points by the end of the half.

UPEI was unable to maintain or improve upon their performance in Saturday's semifinal where they had a commanding win over Dalhousie. Finnish for-

ward Emma Valikoski led SMU with nine points, while their season high scorer Kennisha Luberisse, who averaged 12 points per game, was unable to score the entire game. At the half, UPEI trailed 21-16.

The second half opened with both teams picking up steam. UPEI's defensive brick wall started to crumble, and Laura Langille racked up a couple big three pointers for the Huskies, extending their lead to 11 at the five minute mark. SMU racked up more points in the first five minutes of the second half than they had the entire first quarter, while UPEI more than doubled their entire first half score in the third quarter alone. The Panthers were able to maximize on the 21 personal fouls against SMU and posted a much-improved 42 per cent from the field in the quarter. As the third quarter buzzer sounded, the Panthers were able to narrow the gap to just four

points, trailing SMU 38-34.

Desperation for both teams kicked in in the final quarter, with several tussles for the ball and the score staying close. While the scoring slowed down, the ferocity from both teams remained high. With only 2:30 left, UPEI was able to cut SMU's lead to just three points. But as quick as UPEI managed to come back, they lost it just as quickly. A stream of personal fouls against UPEI helped SMU widen their lead to complete their three-peat with a final score of 57-50.

In SMU's first season without Justine Colley, CIS all-time high scorer and female athlete of the year, the young SMU team was able to keep pace with the veteran-heavy UPEI squad. Langille, who was the defensive and overall player of the game, acknowledged that the team changed after Colley's graduation. "The team dynamic was definitely different this year," she said. "We

knew we needed to spread the scoring out among the five players and that's exactly what we did." Both Langille and head coach Scott Munro credited the team's win to preparation and experience.

"We've had lots of girls here before and our confidence in a big game is what got us through. We defended well and did what we had to do," said Munro. "Looking ahead, we've got a three-game series so we're just going to be focusing on getting through each game."

Saint Mary's is off to the CIS championships at the Université de Laval, with the action getting underway March 12.

Women's hockey dismantled by St. FX, eliminated from playoffs

Tigers only muster one goal in two games in losing effort

Jake Tallon
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers women's hockey team has been eliminated from the AUS playoffs in the semifinals after dropping two straight games to the St. FX X-Women.

In their last meeting of the regular season, the Tigers routed the X-Women 6-1 to secure a playoff spot. However, they could not find the offense to match X in the post season.

The Tigers found themselves in an early hole, and once again on the brink of elimination after losing their first game 5-0 on Feb. 24.

Dal was outpaced and outplayed the entire night, giving up three of their five goals to St. FX's lethal power play. All three power play goals came from second-year forward Daley Oddy, who completed her hat trick late in the third period.

Goaltender Sojung Shin only needed to make 20 saves

to secure the shutout and send Dal home only one loss away from the end of their season.

On Feb. 26 at the Halifax Forum the Tigers fought hard to keep their season alive, but fell 3-1 to the X-Women. The Tigers fell behind by a goal early in the first period after a rebound found its way to the stick of Alexa Normore and then to the back of the net.

The Tigers stayed with the X-Women throughout the opening frame, staying within one to end the period.

Early in the second, St. FX defenseman Lisa Downey took a tripping penalty. On the ensuing power play, Lisa Maclean took the puck out from behind the St. FX net, danced her way into the slot and fired home a wrist shot over the blocker of Sojung Shin.

With the game tied at a goal a piece, the Tigers controlled the tempo for the remainder of the frame by playing a tight defensive game and winning battle after battle for the puck.

Midway through the third period Daley Oddy found herself alone in front of the Tigers' net and made a nifty

spin move to tuck the go ahead goal past a sprawling Jessica Severyns.

Dal sustained a strong forecheck and kept the X-Women on their heels, registering nine shots in the period. However, one goal was all that Dal could muster. Coach Sean Fraser opted to pull Severyns in the final minutes of the game, but the team was unable to generate anything with the extra attacker.

Kara Power scored an empty net goal to put the X-Women up 3 -1 in the final minute, sealing the Tigers' fate.

With Dal losing the series, St. FX will move on to the AUS finals against the Moncton Aigles Bleus.



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Knowledge Mobilization and the Canadian Arctic

Leah Beveridge
Contributor
B.Sc., M.M.M.

During the last week of January, the symposium "Mobilizing Science Knowledge and Research" was held here in Halifax. It was hosted by the Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response Network in collaboration with four other Canadian Networks of Centres of Excellence. The purpose of the event was to provide a training and educational opportunity on knowledge mobilization.

What is knowledge mobilization (KMb)? According to Wikipedia, it "refers to moving available knowledge (often from formal research) into active use. More than just 'bridging the gap,' KMb seeks to make connections between research/expertise and policy/practice

in order to improve outcomes in various organizations or sectors."

The symposium consisted of ten KMb-related exhibits, and seven posters by Highly Qualified Personnel (people with university degrees at the bachelor's level or higher). One of these posters was by two members of the Maritime Activity & Risk Investigation Network, which is based in the Department of Industrial Engineering at Dalhousie. The title of the research was "Ships in the Canadian Arctic: Answering the Question of Who" and is part of the project PASSAGES (Protection & Advanced Surveillance Systems for the Arctic: Green, Efficient, Secure).

The PASSAGES project is an international collaboration between the Fraunhofer Institute (a research organization) and Airbus Defence & Space in Germany, exactEarth Ltd. (a satellite imagery company) in Ontario, and Dalhousie University.

The purpose of this applied research project is to design a ship surveillance system for the Northwest Passage in the Canadian Arctic. Dalhousie's role is focused on evaluating and interpreting satellite data to create traffic models and conduct risk analyses.

In order to conduct the research, the PASSAGES team first had to understand the stakeholder environment of maritime traffic in the Canadian Arctic: Who is involved? Why and how? What are their interests and objectives? This was a research project in and of itself, and led to the poster presented at the KMb symposium in January.

One of the goals of the women working on the stakeholder research was to develop a visualization tool to help simplify a very complex situation. Twenty-seven stakeholder groups were identified, including Inuit and northern popula-

tions, government departments, and industries that use marine vessels. Their interests were identified as being one or more of five potential categories: climate and environment; economics; safety, security and defence; health and social; or Inuit interests. The visualization tool was developed using D3.js, a JavaScript library that uses digital data to create dynamics graphics. The stakeholders are located around a wheel, bundled by their operating scales (international, national, local), and linked by their interests.

The interactive visualization tool is publicly available and can be accessed at passages.ie.dal.ca/Governance.html. The poster can be viewed at passages.ie.dal.ca/Poster/KMb_Poster_Stakeholders_2015_01_21.pdf.



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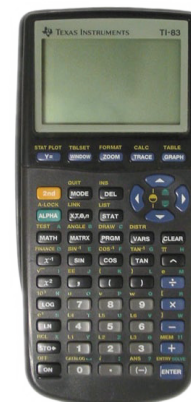
The Engineer's Prayers

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TI be thy name,
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and deliver the solution.
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And assignment be done.
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And the second function button.*

—Tom Brennan

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—Andrew Pumphrey



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