

The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, est. 1868



Photo by Amin Helal

Meet your saviours
Dal's first responders, pg 3

FREE!

Oct. 10 - Oct. 16, 2014

The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

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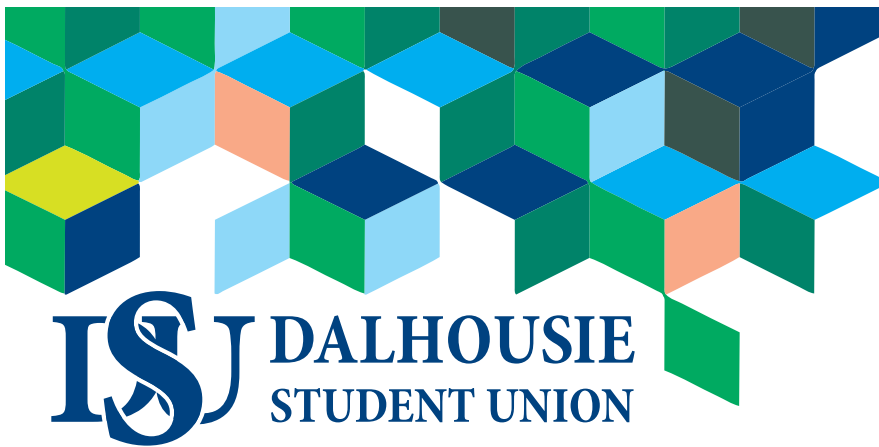


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the fine print

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 Stretcher, 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 Stretcher feature are solely those of the person being quoted, and not The Gazette's writers or staff.

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ISJ DALHOUSIE
STUDENT UNION

GENERAL MEETING

THURS, OCT 23, 2014

**BRING
DALCARD
TO VOTE**

**6:30PM SUB
RM 303**

**AGENDA
AND CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENTS WILL
BE ANNOUNCED
OCT 9, 2014**



Dalhousie's Medical Campus Response Team

Inside the lives
of Dal's very
own Baywatch

Eleanor Davidson
News Editor

In the handful of weeks since their inception, the Dalhousie Medical Campus Response Team (MCRT) has already helped 32 individuals at 18 events.

The MCRT has been present at a wide variety of events throughout the first weeks of the school year. Any university event with a high student turnout will likely have five to seven responders working in case of an emergency.

A brand new society for Dal, the MCRT exists on the premise of students helping students. The team consists of 40 volunteer medical responders, all of whom have been trained by St. John Ambulance.

Many of the students on the team are applying to medical school. Others are currently studying nursing or are interested in pursuing a health care career in the future.

"Our biggest challenge so far has been managing the number of people that want to join the team," says MCRT founder Anthony Saikali. "This is a great challenge to have. We just need to remind students to stay in touch, and put their names forward the application session in the winter."

Since the team's first day on Aug. 31, they've attended events ranging from Orientation Week's



The medical campus response team is on top of Dal. ••• Photo by Adele Van Wyke

Black and Gold Dance to the Making Waves for the IWK sailing race.

The presence of the team has already made a noticeable difference to the safety of those at the events.

"We've completely eliminated the need for Dal Security and ambulances at all events covered," says Saikali. "During O-Week, not one ambulance had to be called to an event."

The MCRT puts a priority on making sure students receive medical attention immediately, instead of making them afraid of being punished for their actions.

"At the Black and Gold Dance, for example, security was looking to kick out some students for being too drunk. This would mean putting them outside by themselves. We arranged for a safe way home for everyone, and made sure that students that had had too much to drink were able to get water and

other basic things. It's about help as opposed to punishment," says Saikali.

The MCRT also pays attention to mental health on campus.

Working closely with Dal Security and Dal Health to get a sense of potential medical situations, there are now 12 members of the team certified in mental health first aid.

The mental health first aid certification means responders know how to prevent mental health

issues from becoming worse by ensuring students know where to seek professional help.

As they continue their work, Saikali emphasizes that even if the MCRT doesn't need to give medical help at a certain event, their presence is often enough.

"Those nights when we don't see any casualties, that's good," he says. "It's all about giving that extra level of comfort and confidence to the people there." ☺

Gazette Events
The most detailed listings of events
on campus!



dalgazette.com/events

Balcony tragedy

Injured students tell their stories

Quinelle Boudreau
News Contributor

A third-story balcony collapsed during a party in the early morning of Sept. 27. The balcony, added to the house in 2002, had been controversial from the beginning. The city fined the homeowner because of the addition.

Amanda Lenko and Niki Prekop are two of the students who were injured in the fall. Prekop was the last person to walk onto the balcony before it collapsed without warning. She had been on the balcony previously during the night, and had not worried about its safety.

"It just seemed like a normal balcony," says Prekop.

Lenko had been on the balcony for much of the night before the collapse.

"I was honestly shocked that nobody died"

"Without warning, the floor just collapsed below us. I just couldn't believe it was happening," says Lenko.

"I remember being on the ground, and I couldn't move. People were yelling that they knew first aid and knew what to do, and my first thought was, 'I'm a life-guard, I know what to do too,'" says Prekop, who only remembers being on the ground after the fall.

"I wanted to help, but I just couldn't get up."

Both girls sustained injuries from the fall. Prekop has a broken


ankle, scrapes and bruises on the right side of her body, as well as back pain. Lenko, who landed on her feet, sustained a compressed spine, a bruised lung, and other scrapes and bruises. Both girls worry they will have lasting injuries from the fall.

Other suffer from a broken femur, a broken jaw, knocked out teeth, lacerations and bruises. "I was honestly shocked that nobody died," says Prekop.

Both Prekop and Lenko are students at NSCAD, and their injuries have affected their stud-

ies. Prekop is studying ceramics, which requires simultaneous standing and manual work, which she is unable to do with her crutches.

Lenko returned to school this week, but was unable to stay for the whole day because of pain.

Both girls have difficulty getting around, but say that the school has been very accommodating. They, as well as others who were involved in the collapse, are in the process of filing a lawsuit. 



The former balcony of the South End Halifax home. • • • Ryan Taplin/The Chronicle Herald



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DSU divesting itself of liberty, says report

Endorsement of activist group sees DSU drop in national campus freedom rankings

Jesse Ward
Editor-in-Chief

Because the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) endorses the Divest Dal campaign, their ranking in a national report on freedom of speech at Canadian universities has dropped to one of the lowest grades in Canada.

The Campus Freedom Index is an annual report released by the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms, a Canadian think-tank who says their mission is to “defend the constitutional freedoms of Canadians through litigation and education.”

The 202-page report gives graded rankings from “A” to “F” to 52 Canadian universities based on the practices and policies of the university and its student union.

This year, Dalhousie was given an “F” in its policies and practices, grades retained from the 2013 index.

Reasons include policies that could “open to the door to complaints about ‘discriminatory’ speech,” and the university not indicating it will depart from its past practices of occasionally cancelling lectures by controversial speakers.

The DSU’s grades for policies dropped from “D” to “F”, and their grade in practices went down from “C” to “D”.

When are endorsements beyond the union’s mandate?

“The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) slides to an ‘F’ because of its recent endorsement of the Divest Dal movement, which aims to see Dalhousie University end its investments in fossil fuels,” says the report.

The report contains the criteria on which the rankings are given. One criterion for a student union’s policies to be ranked “F” is: “The student union adopts formal positions in respect of provincial, federal or international issues not related to post-secondary education.”

Michael Kennedy, one of the report’s co-authors, says the DSU’s endorsement of Divest Dal falls under that criterion.

Kennedy says that according to the report’s grading criteria, as of last year, the only thing the DSU was doing well was that it wasn’t taking political positions on issues outside of its mandate.

“This changed in the 2013/2014 year, when the DSU council endorsed the Divest Dal movement,” says Kennedy.

The DSU voted to endorse the Divest Dal campaign at a council meeting last November. The campaign, which aims to have Dalhousie divest its endowment funds from fossil fuels and make its endowment investments public, does not receive financial support from the DSU.

Stephen Thomas, a member of Divest Dal, says the group feels it is appropriate for the DSU to take a stance on issues happening at the university.

“The issue of fossil fuel divestment is on the table and is being worked on actively at the Board of Governor level, at the administration at Dalhousie University,” says Thomas.

“We feel that [the DSU] are certainly free to go through their own processes as a council and support or withhold support from any student campaign that is active at the Board of Governor’s level, or active as something that’s happening within the university administration itself.”

Kennedy, who graduated from Dalhousie in 2011 with a BA in political science and economics, doesn’t believe taking a stance on the university’s investments falls under the mandate of the student union.

“The problem with taking political stances on issues that are outside of the mandate of the student union is, of course, students can’t opt out of the DSU,” says Kennedy.

“And at a campus with 18,000 students, there’s going to be a lot of disagreement and diversity of opinion on every issue, especially something like Divest Dal.”

Kennedy says that when the DSU executive endorses a blanket political stance on behalf of its members, it makes students who disagree with them feel like they don’t have a voice in their union.

“It makes them feel excluded



Can you spot the freedom of speech? • • • Photo by Paola Tolentino

from the union, and that’s not the kind of atmosphere that the student union should be trying to support,” says Kennedy.

Thomas, who graduated from Dalhousie’s mechanical engineering program last year, says he has a difficult time seeing how students would feel excluded from the DSU because of their endorsement of Divest Dal.

“With any elected body, there will be those who are of the opinion that is not shared by the folks who have been elected as representatives,” says Thomas.

Thomas says Divest Dal has held a number of “Demystifying Divestment” and “Divest 101” events to make sure they answered all questions people have about their campaign and fossil fuel divestiture.

“We’re not trying to silence anyone,” says Thomas, “and we don’t feel that the DSU’s endorsement of our work is stopping anyone from saying what they have to say, and being heard in doing that.”

Credibility of the report

Divest Dal members had not heard of the Campus Freedom Index or the Justice Centre for

Constitutional Freedoms prior to this year’s report, says Thomas.

After seeing they were mentioned in the report, they looked at Michael Kennedy’s LinkedIn profile and saw he was formerly an associate at the Charles Koch Institute.

The Charles Koch Institute is a professional educational organization founded by Charles Koch, chairman and CEO of Koch Industries, Inc. Koch Industries is a multibillion-dollar company with subsidiaries in petroleum manufacturing, refining and distribution.

“I have to call to question that the issue of fossil fuel was just given there as one sentence within the report itself,” says Thomas, “and we feel that the authors of the report not thinking kindly of the endorsement of fossil fuel divestment has more to do with Michael Kennedy working for the Charles Koch Institute than it does issues of freedom or liberty.”

Kennedy says the credibility of the report is evident in the report.

“We’re very clear on our methodology, on our grading criteria, on how we assign grades,” says Kennedy. “We provide almost 200 pages of documentation of 52 uni-

versities, 24 of the 25 largest universities that are public in Canada, and the Justice Centre has a lot of experience in court winning cases for students whose rights have been infringed by their university or their student union.”

“There’s a strong legal case in Canada for the kinds of campus free speech rights that we’re advocating for in the report, and that we’re highlighting where they’ve been appealed,” says Kennedy.

“So I think the report really does speak for itself, in highlighting how important it is we recognize that our universities and student unions are failing in their mission to provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas.”



**CONTRIBUTOR
MEETINGS**

**Mondays, 6:30pm
Rm 312, The SUB**

Faculty members criticise program prioritization

Program prioritization major reason for academic program cuts

Sabina Wex
News Editor

Panelists at a Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) sponsored talk said that university program prioritization limits academic freedom.

Program prioritization is a system that ranks university programs, including academics, administration and services, such as parking and intramural sports. The lower-ranked programs are indicators to administrators as to what the university could potentially cut in order to save money.

"The result is frequently the same: resource allocation that has little to do with the quality of education and a lot to do with political, administrative or corporate priorities," DFA president Catrina Brown said at the beginning of the talk.

The Sept. 30 talk, "Whose Priorities? Whose Choices?" featured York University labour historian Craig Heron, University of Saskatchewan English professor Len Findlay and Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) VP (academic and external) Jacqueline Skiptunis. Robert Dickeson coined the method of program prioritization with his best-selling book, "Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services." He also runs an academic consulting firm that has been used by many universities in the USA and Canada.

The University of Guelph completed program prioritization last October. Top priorities included science-related teaching and research programs, parking and intramural athletics. Lower priorities included the campus bookstore, as well as language, literature, theatre studies and math programs. Almost no undergraduate programs ranked in the top 20 per cent of the rankings.

Even without Dickeson, universities continue to prioritize programs with other consulting firms or by themselves. Dal has not admitted to participating in program prioritization.

Brown introduced Skiptunis as a representative for the student opinion on program prioritization. Skiptunis said she came to

Dal in 2007 to study linguistics, but discovered when she arrived at the school that the program had just been cut that year.

Even when she continued with

said. "The administration doesn't think students are going to side with professors."

Both Heron and Findlay said in their speeches at the DFA talk

ernment. In the way that Harper fracks the country for oil and its economic benefits, university administrators frack the faculty to receive corporate funding.

programs be ranked, other than through slippery subjective judgments?" Heron said.

Skiptunis said she often hears from students that they feel disrespected by the university because it has taken away courses in faculties they decide aren't that profitable.


"The job of a university historically is not to be market-reactive [...] the job of a university is to actually create the market," she said. "In trying to chase a market and cutting programs and denying students access to courses they desire and they need, they're actually devaluing our university degree."

After the program prioritization exercise, Heron said the tension between faculties was apparent throughout the York campus. "An unhealthy spirit of competitiveness emerges," Heron said. "Throughout the process, faculty associated with particular programs are typically anxious and fearful that their own program is at risk."

A professor from the School of Health Professions said a university administrator told her to teach the bare minimum so that she could focus more on her research. Dal asks the School of Health Professions to list what professors do so that they can get a pay increase for every year they teach at the school.

"Tenure is coupled to academic freedom," Findlay said. "To be a fearless tribune, to call things as you see them, and to do so without fear of reprisal. If there is a culture of fear, it is profoundly damaging to the institution and profoundly dismaying to the general public."

Heron also gave advice in his speech about how to resist the administration's demands.

"No thanks, give us adequate public funding and we'll produce the high quality teaching and research that you want at a reasonable cost," he said. "That, we should tell them, is our priority." 

"In trying to chase a market and cutting programs and denying students access to courses they desire and they need, they're actually devaluing our university degree."



a major in Russian studies, her Russian language and literature professor Shannon Spasova eventually left Dal in 2012 because the university wouldn't give her a secure position; she was on a limited-term appointment since 2007.

"To find out that [...] my university didn't think that what this woman taught and the people she taught were valuable enough to them to keep the program running and to fund it properly was even more damaging," Skiptunis

that the administration has seized control of the university rather than the professors. Heron said that even Dickeson's updated bestseller mentions the rising increase in administrative costs in contrast to continual cuts to academic programs.

Findlay, an English professor at the University of Saskatchewan who fought with its faculty association against the program prioritization occurring there, said the university is being governed in a way mirroring the Harper gov-

ernment. York University, where Heron works, participated in a Dickensonian program prioritization exercise. Each faculty had many questions to answer about their programs in 500 words or less.

The questionnaire also asked York faculties to present data, such as student retention rates and employment after graduation rates. But this data was often inaccurately or inadequately portrayed, especially in liberal arts programs.

"Without decent data, how can

SUB renovations moving forward

New plans include cafeteria space and a smaller Grawood

Paisley Conrad
News Contributor

The latest round of Dalhousie Student Union Building plans have been submitted and are under review.

The goal of the renovations is “to update the building, as it’s a little tired. We’re going to open up the building to more daylight,” says Keith Tufts, the architect in charge of the designs.

While Tufts is mapping out the blueprints, student input has been used along every step of the designs.

“What’s critical is making the building a place that more students can use for the purposes they need on campus, whether it be social or academic or event-based,” says Tufts.

Tufts says the construction team will be doing “most of the work on the existing building, like the cafeteria and the Grawood, in the summers when the students aren’t there. We still want to maintain accessibility for students. We’ll focus on additions during the school year, like the Atrium, to minimize inconvenience. It’s all about efficiency.”

The new plans also include significant changes to the student bar, the Grawood.

“We will be radically reducing



An artist's visualization of the new design for the SUB. ••• Lydon Lynch Architects

the size of the Grawood. It isn’t utilized in the same way that it was when it was built. Students aren’t looking for a place to dance or party as much as they are for a relaxed place to socialize.”

Another major alteration to the present SUB will be the Society Hub, which will be a centralized location for all DSU societies to

hold office hours, host meetings and store materials.

There are some who are concerned that this Society Hub will not meet the needs of all existing societies. The Nova Scotia Public Interest Resource Group (NSPIRG), who have operated in their current space for over a decade, are losing their location

to the renovations.

Brian Crouse, Resource Admin Coordinator for NSPIRG, says, “We are a resource centre. Within NSPIRG, there’s a wide range of people working on different issues. Having this space is pretty essential. A lot of the smaller spaces that have been proposed would limit us using that space

as a hub, a resource centre and a meeting place.”

Students looking to provide input on the current draft of renovation designs have the opportunity to attend an open consultation on October 28. ☎

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Bill Spurr, Chronicle Herald



Those “F”s don’t stand for freedom

Dalhousie ranks near bottom of 2014 Campus Freedom Index

Michael Kennedy
 Opinions Contributor

Last week, the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms (JCCF.ca) released the 2014 Campus Freedom Index, an annual report measuring the state of free speech at Canadian public universities. I’m afraid that once again, this year, your university and student union admins have failed in their duty to foster the free exchange of ideas on campus (or at the very least, to stop interfering in it).

Using a five-tier letter scale – A, B, C, D and F – the Campus Freedom Index grades universities and student unions on their stated policies (what they say) and their practices (what they do). Each university receives four letter grades for each of university policies, university practices, student union policies, and student union practices.

Dalhousie University gets an ‘F’ for its repeated attempts to censor discussions on campus involving controversial viewpoints. Most recently, in 2011, the student group Pro-Life at Dal (PLAD) organized a debate on abortion and were charged a \$350 security fee. On the night of the debate, despite paying the security fee, the club was suddenly told that Dal’s security officers would not intervene if any disruptions occurred. The room was vandalized prior to the event, and stink bombs were set off throughout the discussion, yet Dal security with its \$350 in fees did not intervene to provide security at any point.

The university has not apologized for its inaction, did not refund the security fee and has not taken corrective measures to ensure future events do not face the same poor treatment and lack of protection. In 2010, Dal used the same tactic to push the controversial British MP George Galloway off campus, who was deemed a security risk (“because

he speaks about controversial topics”).

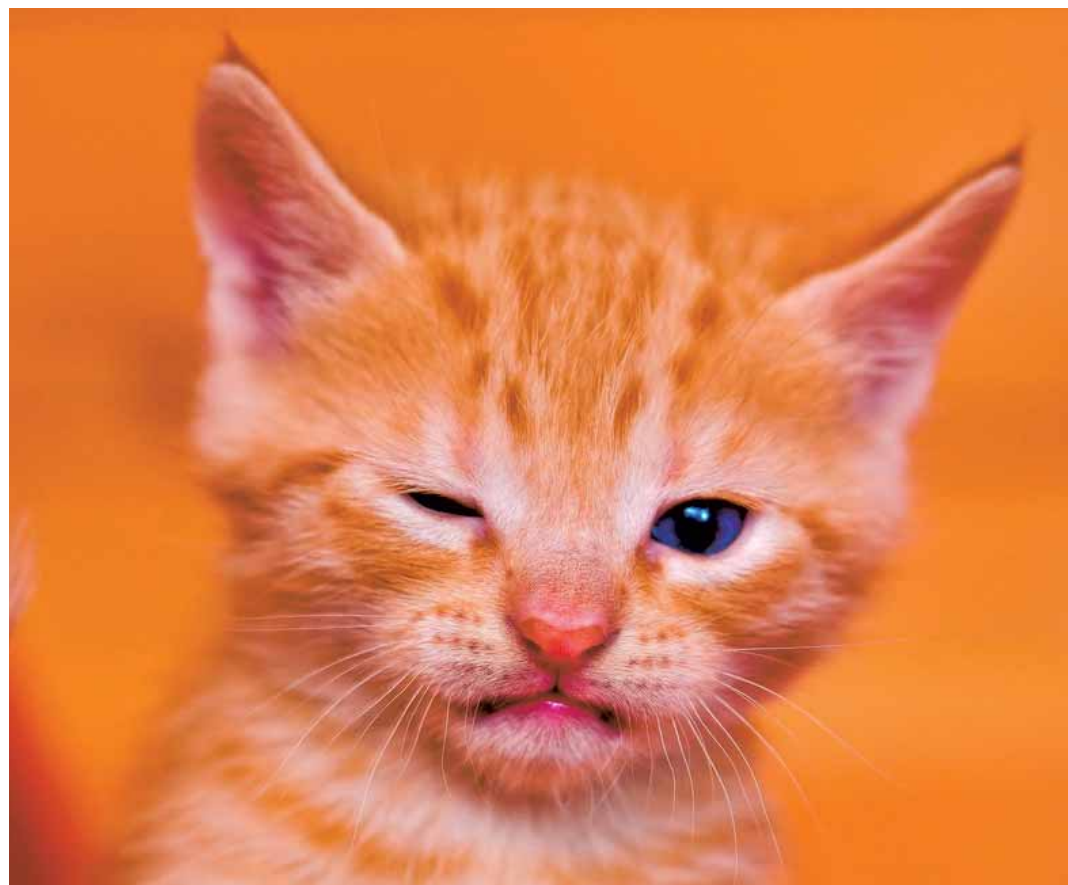
Security fees are a popular tactic of censorship employed at other ‘F’ grade universities, such as the University of Toronto and the University of Waterloo. The price for unpopular speech goes to hundreds or even thousands of dollars in that student groups cannot readily afford.

But security isn’t a privilege we pay for on campus – our public universities are expected to uphold the rule of law and to ensure the safety of students, faculty and invited guests on their property. If campus security attempted to charge someone a \$350 fee before intervening to prevent theft or violence against them, we would be outraged. We would be even more outraged if they then refused to provide security despite being paid. So should we be outraged at Dal’s attempts to duck out of its own legal responsibility to uphold the rule of law on campus.

Dal must defend the right of all students to express their views and engage in the debate of ideas, not just students who adhere to popular beliefs, tout “safe” opinions, and support politically correct causes. Dal receives more than \$170 million in taxpayer dollars each year, in part so it can fulfill this responsibility.

The DSU has the dubious distinction of being one of the 10 worst student unions in Canada when it comes to free speech. The union earns an ‘F’ for maintaining many ‘speech codes’ – policies and regulations which illegally restrict expression on campus.

The DSU imposes unfair restrictions on student groups, including that groups cannot have a mission that conflicts with theirs – a loaded requirement that can mean different things to different DSU execs. Clubs must also not have a purpose which is deemed to overlap with that of another group – but determining



Feelin’ bad about something someone said? Don’t be a censoring sourpuss! ••• Tambako/Flickr

what ideas overlap with others is a necessarily subjective and pointless exercise.

The same illogic is applied to students campaigning for referenda, who are required to join the DSU’s approved ‘yes’ and ‘no’ campaigns in order to fully participate. The DSU also “reserves the right to charge ancillary fees to societies holding events, for services including but not limited to DSU security staff ...”.

These policies earned the DSU a ‘D’ grade in the 2013 Campus Freedom Index. This year, the DSU drops to an ‘F’ because it took a blanket political stance in support of the Divest Dal campaign, which aims to see the uni-

versity end any investments in fossil fuel companies.

As a union that obliges itself to “actively represent the diverse interests of Dalhousie students” it is wrong-headed and damaging for the DSU to take a unitary position on behalf of all its members on an issue that has no direct relevance to them or their union. Since there is no “opt-out” period for the DSU, members who disagree with the Divest Dal movement are thus left misrepresented, isolated and without a voice of their own.

DSU councilors should consider their counterparts at the Queen’s Alma Mater Society (AMS), who believed so strongly

in a politically-neutral student union that they enshrined it into policy, committing their union to “a general policy of political neutrality” on issues outside its mandate. I hope this year’s cohort of DSU councilors will agree that a position of political neutrality can, as the AMS says, “better foster openness and inclusivity than a politicized [one].”

There is no reason why Dal and the DSU can’t earn ‘A’ grades in the 2015 Campus Freedom Index. With fresh leadership at both levels, the time has never been better. ☺

Log-in to your legislature

Following politics is easier (and less sketchy) than Facebook creeping.

Mark Coffin
Opinions Contributor

Some people come to Nova Scotia for school and immediately feel at home here. Other people never fully feel welcomed by the community. According to the law, as long as you're a Canadian citizen, and you've been studying here for six months, and plan to stay, this place is now considered your home. If that applies to you, the Nova Scotia government is now your government. Actually, it's our government. You, me and everybody else who lives here. Welcome. Of course, you can keep telling people your permanent address is your parent's house in Kapuskasing, Ont., so they get all your bills, but your citizenship follows you.

As shared-owners of this province, we're all stewards for this place. The paths that lead us here are different, but as Nova Scotians we share a common future. Much, although not all, of our future success depends on who's leading us and how we are governed.

There are plenty of ways to find out what is happening in the Government of Nova Scotia, but if you've never followed government before, chances are you'll be overwhelmed by the information you'll find. Most of us will never be close enough to the centre of political action to know where to look or what to ask for.

Our new website, OpenHouseNS.ca, broadens access to information about how decisions are made in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly – the place political scientists Jennifer Smith and Lori Turnbull call the “elected cockpit of political life in the province.”

Until now, it's been much easier to know what embarrassing things your friends did on Friday night than it is to know what embarrassing things your MLA might be saying on your behalf in the House of Assembly. Not anymore.

There has long been a record of what happens in the House of Assembly called the Hansard. The Hansard is a word-for-word record of every conversation that happens on the floor of the legis-

lature. The information is nothing new—all OpenHouseNS.ca does is organize it.

The volume of content produced in a typical sitting of the legislature ranges from one-to-two times the total word-count of all seven Harry Potter books. The Hansard isn't an easily searchable database and is organized chronologically, so you need to know what you're looking for, or be prepared for a long read. Unsurprisingly, most of the proceedings of the legislature are in no way as captivating as Rowling's novels.

However, every now and then the legislature deals with something that really matters. We wanted to build a site that

matches how people consume content online, so you can know when those important things are happening.

The site takes the work of the Hansard publication and uses the magic of the internet to turn it into a traceable stream of updates about what each MLA is saying in Province House. In order to follow along, all you need to know is your address, and the site points you to your MLA.

The site introduces a powerful new search function that gives people the ability to monitor how the issues they care about are being discussed in the legislature. It makes sharing and linking to content easier, so Nova Scotians

can communicate with their social networks about what's happening in the legislature. It is a versatile platform that we imagine will be a resource for Nova Scotians to learn about our politics and will inform how people and groups engage with the provincial government. We hope it will be a tool that people who are new to Nova Scotia can use to quickly get up to speed on issues they care about, so that they feel informed enough to engage with our provincial politicians.

Our ability to live up to our full potential as Nova Scotians has much to do with being able to make collective decisions through the democratic processes that

govern our political institutions. Doing that effectively means paying attention. Paying attention just got a whole lot easier.

Mark Coffin is the Founder and President of the Springtide Collective, a public interest group working to bridge the gap between Nova Scotians and our democratic institutions. He is a graduate of the Environmental Science program at Dalhousie University. He can be reached @MarkCoffin on Twitter or via email Mark@SpringtideCollective.ca

OpenHouseNS.ca was developed by James McKinney at OpenNorth.ca. ☎



Now you can follow Province House debates WITHOUT pants! ••• Photo by Amin Helal

Dalhousie rugby learns from previous hazing by staying silent

Ian Froese
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

With each incidence of hazing, the public becomes less sympathetic for those who engage in what is, in no uncertain terms, bullying.

That is illustrated perhaps no more clearly than at Dalhousie.

Less than two years ago, the university's women's hockey team ignited a media circus when all 19 non-rookies were benched for their role in an alcohol-fuelled rookie party. The team could have quietly accepted their punishment, but they did not. They fought back. They unsuccessfully appealed their ban, arguing they were being 'bullied' by university administration.

The story became a week-long nightmare that made nobody look good.

Let's fast-forward to this fall.

Somehow, we have another hazing incident, so soon after January 2013 marked the end of the season for Dal's women's hockey team. This time it involved two Dalhousie men's rugby teams.

Somehow, this alleged hazing occurs only months after the university senate passed a new hazing policy.

Somehow, this bullying happens after the university met with executives from each sports club, including rugby, this spring to explain the school's sports club handbook, which includes clear mention that all club members

will be held accountable for their actions, on and off the field.

All signs pointed to the fallout from this suspension being more severe than what women's hockey faced. The rugby teams should have known better, especially after witnessing such an ugly on-campus spectacle less than two years ago.

But instead, the two rugby squads accepted their penalty, and we have moved on. No public melodrama, dramatic written letter or breathless media reports.

Another hazing episode, so soon after the last one, is a wound on the university's reputation. But, unlike the women's hockey suspension, this ban wasn't allowed to fester because of outspoken rugby players arguing for leniency

and forgiveness.

Even if the rugby teams would have publicly disputed their punishments, the arguments they made would not have had the same traction as women's hockey previously enjoyed.

Our society understands the perils of bullying better today than ever. It's why we no longer excuse hazing because the teams of our parents or coaches did it. We now know—and this consensus is growing by the month—that hazing is wrong.

Say what you will about our society becoming more sensitive, pampered or whatever, hazing needs to be eradicated. An 18-year-old entering university, trying to fit in, is susceptible to peer pressure. Some do not have

the maturity to stand up for themselves or handle the disdain, mild or not, of the older teammates they look up to.

No matter how severe the alleged hazing was, it's clear that Dalhousie's rugby club failed themselves, their university and their fellow classmates. They do not deserve to finish their season.

By shutting up and accepting their punishment, we know the teams have at least learned one thing. ☹

Ian Froese was the Dalhousie Gazette's editor-in-chief in 2013-14 and sports editor the two previous years.



Photo by Alexander Maxwell



Photo by Alexander Maxwell

Hazing needs to stop now

Recent rugby scandal raises bigger questions about Dalhousie athletics

Benjamin Blum
Sports Editor Emeritus

Hazing should not be dismissed as mere jocular, or a prank gone awry. It is bullying. Plain and simple.

Whether it's the major leagues or house leagues, sports do a lot of good in society. However, it is naïve to say that it doesn't have blemishes.

Cheating, drug use and corruption have done a lot to mar the reputation of professional and youth sports.

Hazing is one glaring example of organized sports gone wrong. It is a form of abuse and should be treated as such.

Dalhousie is back in the spotlight for hazing. The men's rugby club was suspended less than two years after a scandal ended the women's hockey team's season.

The Canadian Press reported that the rugby club is being investigated under the university's haz-

ing policy. This stand-alone policy has been in place since June.

The hockey incident should have clued people in. To have it occur less than two years later is embarrassing and shameful.

Having a special policy for hazing is like treating a concussion with a Band-Aid. It fails to address the issue properly while pretending to cure it.

The ideal of sport is that it is a true meritocracy. Every minute of ice time, every plate appearance and every down on the field is earned through hours of hard work and dedication.

In four years of working at a sports camp, I taught my campers that patience, effort and sportsmanship are the keys to success in any game. Being an inclusive teammate and a respectful opponent should be valued above winning.

The concept of hazing is antithetical to the very principles of sports. It has no bearing on

whether someone can be successful during a game. It takes advantage of new players and rookies who desperately want to fit in and be accepted as a part of the team. No player should be subjected to humiliation disguised as 'team building.' And yet, hazing has once again reared its ugly head at Dal.

When people brush off hazing as not a big deal since no one was hurt, it furthers the issue by casting a blind eye on those suffering in silence. If even one person is made to feel uncomfortable, it is bullying. Period.

The obvious guilt falls on those members of the team who subject others to the hazing itself. However, veterans who watch but don't participate are equally guilty, if not more so. They knew it was wrong and said nothing, allowing for this ugly rite of passage to continue.

There are frequent public service announcements across

all media against bullying and peer pressure. Hazing should be included under this umbrella as it encompasses both. A player won't want to be ostracized from his or her teammates, and will therefore take part in something that is uncomfortable and unpleasant.

If this incident does not prompt and outcry from student-athletes, it should incite outrage from parents of Dal athletes. They support their children's choice to play at a varsity or club level. They put their trust in the coaching staff and athletic department to protect them. Dalhousie has failed them.

The athletic department has some serious questions to answer. Even though they have the new policy, the fact that it is in use so soon after the hockey scandal is indicative of a greater issue.

Adding a new policy does not go far enough. There needs to be a change in the culture of sports at Dalhousie. The athletic depart-

ment also needs to change how they supervise their teams at all levels and what they regard as permissible.

I have learned that perfection is a moving target and that true gains come from aiming for better. It is something I have passed on to every athlete I have coached at the elementary and high school levels.

Dalhousie's athletic department isn't going to change overnight. However, like learning a new sport or skill, persistence and commitment will lead to improvement in changing the athletic culture on campus. 🧡

Benjamin Blum is the former Sports editor at the Gazette and has worked in youth sports in Toronto and abroad over the past four years.

From the Archives

A History of Hazing

John Hillman
Opinions Editor

Hazing has been a topic of intense debate at Dalhousie for even longer than there has been a Gazette to report on it. What follows is a very small sampling of that history, a survey that stretches from an 1872 account of an ancient Freshman-hoisting contraption known as "The Box" to more modern reports of engineers' raids of King's.

"Dallusiensia"

November 16, 1872 – Volume 5, Issue 1

All former students of Dalhousie will grieve to hear that "The Box" has been torn down. No more will the classic walls of Dalhousie re-echo shouts of "Put him up! Put him up!" or see luckless Freshmen determinedly opposing their rise in the world. It is a great loss to the students and can only be remedied by the Governors giving us a block and tackle, so that future delinquents may be hoisted up in place of being put up.

"Hazing" – October 1912 – Volume 45, Issue 1

Hazing is an old and time honoured custom. Few seem to understand its true significance. It is supposed by some, to be a barbarous system by which the freshness is taken out of the Freshmen. This, however, is contrary to fact. The term Freshman was applied to the first year students many hundreds of years before the word fresh acquired its modern slang meaning, rude and untamed. The term Freshman does not imply that a man is impudent, selfconscious and bold, but on the contrary, that having newly come to college, he is meek, humble, and untried.

Hazing plays a prominent part in college life. It soon transforms a lot of disunited newcomers into a strong and efficient class. It forces the Freshmen to make the acquaintance of men of their classes. In a college like Dalhousie, where the students are widely separated, this is a very important feature. By giving the newcomers a common terror, Hazing spirit creates a strong class. This in turn is but the stepping stone to college spirit, and no one will say that this is not a feature of college life which is worthy of our highest and best efforts.

(...)

Hazing fulfills its purpose. It quickens class activities and develops college spirit. It brings the best men to the front, and makes the least feel like he has played a part in the work of his class, and thus indirectly in the life of the college at large. Hazing is supposed by some to be cruel, but this is not so in Dalhousie. Ask the Freshmen themselves, and cherish their answer. It is not silly child's play, but a very necessary part of college life. It needs no tender nurturing from the college as a whole, but it is in able hands if it is entrusted to the kind offices and sharp wits of the lordly Sophomores.

"THIS HAZING HABIT" – October 23, 1931 – Volume 64, Issue 1

During the past few weeks, significant signs of this annual aberration known as hazing have been in evidence about the campus. This particular form of innocuous insanity is the ancient practice, visited upon each generation of freshmen like the sins of the fathers upon the children, and in common with many venerable customs, it possesses doubtful merit, and is exposed to considerable captious criticism.

(...)

To our mind the whole process of hazing is ineffectively arid and childishly absurd. It benefits no one, and only serves to make the university ridiculous in the eyes of the general public. The origin of the practice seems to have been the desire to impress on newcomers to college the fact that their position was now a humble one, and also to suppress any grandiose ideas which a freshman might have of his own importance. But in these days of the mass production of students, where two or three hundred are forced to don the regal regalia of initiation, the desired production of an inferiority complex fails to take place. The new-comers congregate in little groups wherever they go, and feel rather proud at the attention they attract. The rest of the college laughs at them the first day or so, and at the end of a week is sick and tired of seeing these modified scarecrows in their midst.

The effect of all this on the plebian populace is decidedly deleterious to the university's reputation. Stolid citizenry, seeing crowds of students garbed in the ghastly garments of initiation, cynically conclude that the pursuit of learning has given place to the pursuit of sartorial sensation. And their judgement is not without foundation, for after all, university men and women should have outgrown such puerile pranks. They should be cultivating ideals and ambitions on a slightly higher plane. Without taking themselves too seriously, they should be taking life seriously, and attempting to lay some solid basis for character and intellect. Otherwise, their time, and their parents' money is being utterly wasted. Instead of coming to a university, they had far better remain in the home town, join the local society of Bears, Elks or Lions, and parade about in gorgeous and silly costumes to their heart's content.

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“HAZING BANNED”

October 4, 1961 – Volume 94, Issue 2

Dalhousie University last week joined the current college "hazing" ban movement with an order from the Student Council executive that halted traditional initiation procedures in mid-stream. Student Council president Dick Thompson ordered Orientation Committee chairman Henry Muggah to enforce a 1953 university Senate ruling prohibiting "hazing as a part of initiation proceedings."

The move came as a surprise to most sophomores, grown accustomed to non-enforcement of the order which banned wearing of placards "except those bearing the names and addresses of students for purposes of identification," and "any actions that inflict personal indignity."

Implementation of the order was immediate. Pant legs were rolled down, placards disappeared from city streets, shoe polishing and push-ups became a feature of past initiations.

Earlier, Mr Muggah announced that the 1961 initiation "would not be 'hazing' in the normal sense. "Instead," he said, our purpose is to make new students feel at home, meet people, and get an idea of college life. Nobody is to be forced to do anything they don't care to."

(...)

Frosh reaction to the ban was mixed. One Halifax freshette remarked: "I didn't know just what to expect. . . I really didn't."; while a freshie-soph from Lunenburg cooed, "A hell of a good time." A freshman from Dartmouth said he expected it to be a lot of fun – "I liked to wear the beanie and cards: I couldn't see why it had to stop."

However, one Halifax freshman felt the whole thing was "a childish waste of time."

“Engineers ‘Visit’ King’s”

by Darrell Dexter

September 27, 1979 – Volume 112, Issue 3

Initiation or hazing of freshmen has been a long standing tradition of the engineering society at Dalhousie. This year was to be no exception to the rule. On Wednesday, September 19, as had been the case in other years, the engineer freshmen were taken to a party on their behalf. The party was to include being covered in everything from sour milk to special sauce and of course ample quantities of beer.

The second part of this traditional "Feast of Engineers" is a "spontaneous" raid on the University of King's College women's residence. In past years this raid has included such antics as scaling drain pipes, to trying to muscle past a raft of campus police. The campus police are employed especially for the event and usually have a two or three day notice of their arrival. The engineering society makes no secret of their intentions to continue their hallowed tradition.

(...)

This year, as was the custom, the college again prepared for the raid, unknowing that this year would be something quite different. This year there would be eggs thrown, windows broken, campus police beaten up, and engineers hit with flashlights. In the opinion of many, it would be the most violent outburst seen on the campus.

Keith Wellband, President of the Dalhousie Engineering Society, said that the raid on Alexandra Hall was a tradition and, to his knowledge, one the Engineers were going to continue. He went on to say there were eggs thrown, windows were broken and campus police were beaten up. He also pointed out that the raid was spontaneous and was not an official function of the Engineering Society. He said that from the reports that he had received the raid was something that the campus police were "up for".

Wellband concluded that "for the damages that did occur, on behalf of the engineers, I apologize."

The actual raid as described by various members of the King's community was "more violent than usual but still a success in terms of school spirit for both the engineers and the college." One campus police officer, Jeff Morris, a second year science student, said that there were some students there who were too drunk to participate. "One of them asked me if I was a C.P. and when I replied yes he asked me to take him home. We just put him off to the side to watch. I felt more sorry for him than anything."



Dal Photo / DeLorey



Spirit on the streets

Sisters in Spirit march to honour missing Aboriginal women

Elizabeth Whitten
Arts Contributor

Despite the rain and wind, a crowd gathered at the Grand Parade this Saturday for the Sisters in Spirit vigil. Afterwards was a solidarity march that ended at the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre on Gottingen Street. The event was held to commemorate the memory of missing or murdered Aboriginal women in Canada.

Research has shown a disturbing reality in Canada – a disproportionate number of aboriginal women are missing or unaccounted for. They are also more likely to deal with poverty, and more likely to be victims of human trafficking and murder.

Sisters in Spirit organized the vigil. They research, educate and advocate better policies in Canada

for aboriginal women. According to the vigil's Facebook page, "Nearly half of murder cases involving Aboriginal women and girls remain unsolved; by contrast, as of 2005 84 per cent of all homicide cases in Canada were cleared by police."

But there has been renewed attention on missing or murdered women – the recent murders of Loretta Saunders and Tina Fontaine have put faces behind the issue.

Yvonne Boyer is the Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal health and wellness in Brandon, Manitoba.

"The whole concept of what's happened to aboriginal people in this country is reflected in the murdered and missing women, and the apathy that's gone along with that as well," says Boyer.

Across Canada there have been



Supporters stand their vigil at Parade Square. • • • Photo by Amin Helal

calls for a national inquiry to the violence aboriginal women face. In response to the public calls, Prime Minister Stephen Harper

said, "They're not all one phenomenon [...] We should not view this as a sociological phenomenon. We should view it as crime."

Gail Clark is a field worker for Amnesty International's Nova Scotia and New Brunswick regions. Clark says Harper is just one voice.

"There are more voices out there and Amnesty speaks for those voices," says Clark.

Harper is against seeing the discrimination aboriginal women face as anything more than acts of violence committed by individuals, and not as a systemic problem in society.

By calling the cases of missing and murdered women as instances of individual crimes, Harper denies there is a widespread problem in Canada regarding the treatment of aboriginal women.

It means that he, and by extension we, don't have to do anything or question why these women are going missing in Canada. ☹

DIY filmmaking in Halifax

Learn how to commit those daydreams to the screen

Paola Tolentino
Arts Contributor

"[People] often see filmmaking as something glamorous, a creative outlet that they are finally getting to explore," says Martha Cooley, executive director at the Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative. With easier access to equipment and more accessible publishing platforms these days, more and more people have been turning to filmmaking as a passionate hobby or as a change in career.

The Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative, or AFCCOOP, is a local organization dedicated to helping Halifax filmmakers, both amateurs and professionals. They run several programs, from a residence program to affordable equipment rentals to workshops.

"For a lot of people, we're the first point of contact with the film world," says Cooley.

She knows that AFCCOOP can

be an intimidating place, especially for people who are inexperienced in filmmaking or new to the area. Because of that, she says, AFCCOOP tries its best to make its resources and knowledge easy to access. The last thing they want to do is discourage creative content.

"People are often making work that's really personal and they care about, some passionate endeavour and you get to help them realize that potential."

Compared to large cities like Vancouver or Toronto, Halifax's filmmaking community is relatively small. However, the small size means that the community is also very tight-knit.

"[The filmmaking community] is very positive. It's a lot of the same people all the time, so that's good for networking. There's not a lot of money [In Nova Scotia], so there's also a kind of DIY spirit, lots of volunteering in projects and a lot of giving in the

community."

Workshops offered at the co-op range from introductory courses to training on specific equipment for more advanced creators. It's a good alternative to professional film schools, especially for people who don't have the time, money or motivation to go back to school.

"The best filmmaking is making your own projects and collaborating with people who share your vision," Cooley says. She encourages people to make their own films, whether it's intended for the Internet or for larger screens, like one of Halifax's many film festivals.

AFCCOOP is currently hosting a series of fall film workshops, meant to introduce aspiring filmmakers to the basics, such as screenwriting and directing. But there's always something going on in the filmmaking community, from screenings to contests, such



Paola Tolentino / Dalhousie Gazette

as the Holiday Super-8 Challenge, where participants must use an old-fashioned Super-8 camera and a roll of film to make a movie which is screened later.

Cooley encourages students at Dal to come and check out AFCCOOP workshops and events. "It's a good way to meet people

with similar interest."

The AFCCOOP offices, where you'll find the equipment rentals and editing spaces, is located at 5663 Cornwallis Street (a short walk up from Gottingen Street).

More information about the AFCCOOP is available at their website, afcoop.ca. ☹

Logging a complaint: Halifax's No. 1 Problem

A look at (the lack of) public washrooms around Halifax

William Coney
Arts Contributor

Guess how many easily accessible public washrooms there are in the downtown (I'm defining downtown as below Brunswick Street, from Cogswell southward). Go ahead, guess. I'm not going to judge you on this guess.

If you've guessed, then let me tell you how many there are now - 4. There used to be 5, but the Central Public Library closed shop on August 30th, for its replacement to be opened later in the summer. The 4 which are currently available in the downtown are as follows:

Scotia Square mall - 5201 Duke Street - Out by the hallway which leads out from the Food Court to the parking elevators, these ones are rather clean and spacious, if limited - they are technically only open during the hours which the mall is, although I've been able to sneak into them by walking in via the Parking Garage and the elevator.

Ferry Terminal - George and Lower Water Streets - Right near

the front, if not immediately obvious - but again, like the Scotia Square Mall, it just isn't open during hours which the Ferry isn't operating (after midnight on most days, after 6 on Sundays).

Seaport Farmer's Market - 1209 Marginal Road - A bit far for one to walk to use the washrooms.

Bishop's Landing - 1477 Lower Water Street - next to Hamachi Steakhouse, is a door you wouldn't even notice walking down the boardwalk. It shuts sometime late in the evening, before 11pm for sure.

As you can see, we're left without much any places to use the facilities, well in most places downtown. Without trying to be exhaustive, the South End has very few (the ones in Point Pleasant only being available from Dawn to Dusk, if you choose to follow the municipal legislation on them), the ones at the universities all being rather hidden away and restricted in access at various times of day, and most all of the bus terminals are lacking in these facilities. The North end's hardly better, and the Commons has a



lonesome little washroom in its centre.

For most of us, it means that we're restricted to either our own

homes and to the few businesses and communities which we make ourselves regular patrons of. But if you aren't at any of those loca-

tions, Halifax for you will be a very uncomfortable place for you.

Dalhousie Gazette

Q&A with the Grawood trivia mastermind

Alexandra Florent
Arts Contributor

The Student Union Building (SUB) offers incredible entertainment every Wednesday night at the Grawood. Not only is it wing night, but from 9 p.m. to midnight there's trivia hosted by Ben Parker. Parker has been attending Trivia Night at Dal

since 2008 and in 2013 he finished his undergraduate degree in psychology. The *Gazette* spoke with Ben about his great journey of being the Trivia Night host.

Gazette: What interested you in becoming the Trivia Night host at Dal?

Ben Parker: I went to the Grawood Trivia Night a lot when I

was in residence, that was a lot of fun and I have always had a reputation with my friends as a trivia guy.

G: How long have you had this position for?

BP: I started at the end of August last year.

G: What has been the strangest prize you have given out to the winner of Trivia night?

BP: Sometimes we get stuff to give out from other people who are giving promotions. This Red Bull guy gave out stuff, it was a trip to Montreal to see this crazy event. The prizes are not weird but out of the ordinary.

G: How long has the Trivia Night been a part of Dal?

BP: Been around before 2008.

G: What is one of your most

memorable moments of being the host?

BP: Probably the first time I did it, I guess. Really rewarding when you come up with a question that the whole crowd goes wild for. When I get one question that is invested enough that the whole room goes quite for.

G: Do you have any embarrassing moments when up on stage?

BP: Yeah, I don't know, all kinds of stuff happens. Just last week I forgot question number five, and I had to think of a question number five on the spot.

G: Do you ever get nervous right before you go on? Do you do any rituals beforehand?

BP: Not anymore really, the first time I did, now it is really just routine. I am the one that makes it happen - I don't get nervous now, unless I make a mistake.

G: If you were not the host of Trivia Night, what do you picture yourself doing at Dal on Wednesday night?

BP: Probably go to the other trivia in town. If I wasn't hosting I would go to whoever is hosting it, or go to another one.

G: Do you have any advice or tips for the future Trivia Night host?

BP: Make sure you love the trivia aspects of it, looking up the questions. It is fun but a different kind of fun. More work than you think. It is fun but you have to work on it.

G: Did you ever have a moment where you went on stage and completely blanked.

BP: Not on stage, it is pretty straightforward. The questions are always there if I need them.



Turns out it's pronounced "GREY-wood". •• Photo by Jesse Ward



Big changes to men's hockey

Tigers add 11 recruits for this year's campaign

Tyler Brown
Sports Contributor

Last year's season was one to forget for the Dalhousie men's hockey team. A league worst 3-24-1 record left them out of the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) playoffs and on the wrong side of most games, including a nine game losing streak to start the season. There were few bright spots for the team last year. An ineffective power play and penalty kill, compounded with an anemic offense and porous defense doomed the team to a basement finish.

Eleven new recruits will try to right the ship this year, coming in to fill holes in all parts of the lineup. Goaltender Corbin Boes of Saskatoon joins the Tigers after five years in the WHL. He sported a .913 save percentage and 13-1-1 record last season with the perennial powerhouse Portland Winterhawks. He will compete with Halifax native Richard Tingley who joins the Tigers after a successful career with the MHL Amherst Ramblers and third-year veteran Wendall Vye who saw 10 games of action with the

Tigers last year.

On the point the Tigers will expect big things from prize recruit and Cole Harbour native Brendan Duke, who will be expected to play big minutes immediately after a celebrated career with the hometown Mooseheads, which included a Memorial Cup in 2013. The other new face on the blue line is Patrick Arnold of Oakville, Ont. who will add physicality to the Tigers with a hulking 6'4, 220lb frame. Wes Herrett, who looked great in pre-season, will return to the lineup after illness kept him out of all but nine games last year. Fifth-year Ben MacAskill will provide veteran leadership and defensive presence to the Tigers back end with third-year Matt English and second-year Luke Madill.

After scoring a league low 63 goals last year, the Tigers needed to add size and speed up front. They think they've found that in three big bodies out of the CCHL: first years Tanner Williams, Mike Evelyn, and Steven Johnston who will be counted on to play strong two-way hockey.

First years Colton Parsons and JP Harvey of the MHL will produce points if their record in junior is any indication, a trend the Tigers hope they will be able to replicate in the AUS.

Third-year Fabian Walsh and second-year Andrew Wiggington, who each had seven goals in last year's campaign will shoulder a large part of the offense load, with help from fifth-year captain Pierre Vandall, who returns after a limited campaign due to injury. Also back in the lineup are fourth-year Brad McConnell and third-years Kendall MacInnis, Andrew Roski, and Andrew Lagan. Alex Cote and Andrew Rieder are back for their second seasons in the black and gold and injured forward Dan Joyce will join the team at midseason after recovering from knee surgery.

With the infusion of fresh faces, expect the Tigers to improve on last year's dismal performance and challenge for a mid-table finish. A playoff berth is not out of the question for the Tigers if head coach Chris Donnelly can wring a string of good performances out of his club. ☎



Men's hockey looks to make playoffs for first time since 2011. ••• Photo by Nick Pierce

Dalhousie men's rugby club suspended over alleged hazing

University to investigate activities at off-campus party

Graeme Benjamin
Sports Editor



Photo by Alexander Maxwell

The Dalhousie men's rugby club has been suspended temporarily pending an investigation by the university into hazing allegations.

A statement released by the university said they received a formal complaint from a staff member regarding activities by team members at an off-campus party. The university, who would not comment on the nature of the hazing, is currently investigating the allegations.

Under the university's hazing policy, the club has 60 days to conduct a full investigation. The suspension means the team is unable to represent Dal in the university league and the loss of their funding from the school --- about \$4,000 used for travel and administrative costs. They also will not have booking privileges for university spaces or be allowed to wear university colours/uniforms.

"We expect our student-run sport clubs to adhere to their obligations in the Sport Club Handbook, and will not tolerate behavior that humiliates, disrespects or threatens the safety of individuals

in our community," said the statement released by Dal on Sept. 21.

The release also says the team was already on probation for misbehavior, but the university would not provide details on the nature of the misconduct.

The Division 1 rugby team sat in first place with a 3-0 record. The Division 2 team was in fourth, with a record of 1-1. The teams had two games remaining on their schedule following Friday's cancelled game against the Saint Mary's Huskies. There are 50 players between the two teams.

The allegations come less than two years after Dal's women's hockey team had the remainder of their season cancelled in January following a hazing incident. The university suspended all 19 non-rookies after confirming that a hazing incident occurred at an alcohol-fueled off-campus party. The allegations also come shortly after the university released its new hazing policy in June.

Officials conducting the investigation and team players were unable to be reached for further comment. ☎

Mid-season report: men's soccer

Veteran coach discusses what it will take to win championship

Ashwin Ramakrishnan
Sports Contributor

The 2014 Atlantic University Sport (AUS) regular season, which has been action-packed with unanticipated results so far, is moving to its latter stage. And the journey for the Dalhousie Tigers has been mixed.

With a 3-4-2 record, the Tigers are in sixth position. *The Gazette* sat down with head coach Pat Nearing to discuss his thoughts on the season thus far.

"Team performance has been good, but due to really unfortunate injuries we have not been able to field the strongest team. Some key players have been injured and because of that we have to make some positional adjustment within the team and some people are not playing at their best position," says Nearing. Nearing attributes the biggest positive of the season to their back end. "We gave up four goals against Cape Breton, but overall I would say our keepers and defence have been excellent."

Nearing had nothing but praise for their top goal and point scorer Bezick Evraire. He also added that Zach Mbolekwa is having a breakthrough season for the Tigers this season.

"Zach has come a really long way," he says. "He is in his fourth year now here and is another player who has done very well."

Nearing realizes the complexity of the league, with the overwhelming potential to move placements in the standings on a weekly bases. He says it all falls back on winning games.

"Our league is tight, one win moves you from fifth place to second and one loss takes you from second place to seventh, so we really need to be focus and especially after losing two home games we need to go get points on the road."

Nearing is pleased with the way his players have reacted after losing two home games. "The players' spirit has been excellent. They apply themselves in practice, they are hardworking so I have been very happy with my players and their application to training games is excellent," he says.

Nearing admitted that injuries to players have been one of the most frustrating aspects of the season. "Until we get our top players playing in the position I feel they are most effective, we haven't seen the potential of our team yet."

"My biggest ambition is to create the best team chemistry in the country."

However, he believes the team is just about where it needs to be to find post-season success. "Now

everyone is fit. Everybody is available, everybody will be playing the position that I have envisioned for them in the beginning of the season," he says.

Pat Nearing, who is a Wigan Athletic fan, admires Roberto Martinez and follows his philosophy.

"I love the way he carries himself, I love the football his team plays and the way he is behind his players and create team chemistry and also gets the most of his player. Other managers like Arsene Wenger and Manuel Pellegrini also do very well, but Martinez is the one I admire. I follow his philosophy because we are a hardworking and dedicated team and my biggest ambition is to create the best team chemistry in the country. I think we are probably in that range. We win together

and we lose together, but we are honest in our application to the game."

Pat Nearing is currently in his 17th year as head coach of the Tigers. He says that as soccer evolves, he has to evolve with it.

"We are receiving players from Canadian Club system and sometime we get international players who transfer in from other countries. Over the years the level of athletes has increased in soccer, which has helped to increase the level of play in the CIS and the AUS" says Nearing.

"It's a very fickle situation because when you lose two or three good players. It becomes very difficult to replace them. It's not like hockey players where we have lots of lots of great players in Canada. We have to really look carefully to find good soccer

players especially in this league, which is very athletic and physical. Level of soccer in Dalhousie has been very consistent but we have to increase our level more in order to compete at the very top of Canadian pyramid."

Nearing suggested how Canadian soccer can be improved.

"We need to have a professional league like in Europe if we are to have good players. We need Canadian players to push their way into Europe, Africa and Asia in order to improve our FIFA rankings. Women players are very good but professional element in men's game is critical for creating world class players."


This interview was conducted prior to the Tigers' 3-1 win over Université de Moncton and their 1-0 loss to UNB. 



Photo by Alexander Maxwell

Dal quarterback and coach with roots beyond university

Shelby Rutledge
Sports Contributor

In the short period that Matt Shannon and Al Wetmore have worked together on the Tigers football team this season, their bond is already stronger than most other quarterback/coach dynamics in the league. This is due mostly to the pair's previous gridiron experience together.

As a freshman in high school, Shannon aspired to lead his school's football team as quarterback. He successfully achieved that dream and became the head playmaker in grade 11 under the leadership of head coach Al Wetmore.

Now as a third-year engineering student at Dalhousie, Shannon continues to pursue his football dream. He is now the starting quarterback for the Dal Football Club.

Though a lot has changed in his life since playing high school ball, this year, one thing went back to the way it was previously.

Wetmore is back as his leader.

"It's awesome," says Shannon. "I remember in the off-season finding out that Al is going to be our coach and I just couldn't believe it. I was super excited and I was excited for the experiences that were coming and it would be great for the program too."

Shannon is not the only quarterback on the team that's had Wetmore as a coach in high school. Wetmore previously coached Nick Hunsley, the other Tigers quarterback.

"It's great having my players that were on the high school team play for me again," says Wetmore. "They understand me and they understand what I want."

Wetmore was the head coach at Sir John A. Macdonald High School in Tantallon, N.S. when Hunsley and Shannon were students there.

Sitting on the benches in the locker room, the connection between Shannon and Wetmore is clearly prevalent with their

laughter filling the room. Wetmore says he has an elevated trust in Shannon due to their bond.

"I've always trusted Matt, he is a very intelligent player, independent and he always corrected me when I was wrong," says Wetmore. "You value that as a coach because the less handling you have to do is the better."

Nearly four years have passed since Shannon played for Wetmore in high school, and there have been some changes.

"I mean, Al is not the offensive coordinator anymore so it's differently different than high school," says Shannon. "He was able to have more interactions with the players."

Wetmore, however, has noticed a lot of changes in Shannon.

"He's bigger, stronger and a better player. Matt has moved forward and developed, as you should when you grow older," says Shannon. "But it's also different leagues. He was successful in high school so he is going to be successful in this league."

After taking a short break

from coaching, this is Wetmore's first year at Dal. As a high school coach, Wetmore designed the football program from scratch and loved it – but needed time off.

"I resigned as a high school coach from time restraints and to try to expand myself in other areas, like running my business," says Wetmore.

"It's great to be back," he says. "I missed football a lot, and when I got the call requesting me for one of these positions I took it."

For this year's team, Wetmore wants to get the program as good as the one he built in high school. In his first year, though, he says he's still trying to get a feel for things.

He's happy to have Shannon by his side for his journey. ☺



Dal quarterbacks Matt Shannon (right) and Nick Hunsley (left) were both coached by Wetmore in high school. ••• Photo by Mark Kays



Photo by Alex Maxwell

Mid-season report: women's soccer

Jack Hutchison frustrated with team's slow start

Graeme Benjamin
Sports Editor

Jack Hutchison is looking for changes to take place on the women's soccer team immediately. If not, he says, the team will not be prepared for the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) Championships hosted on their own turf.

The women's soccer team entered the halfway point of their season with a 3-3-1 record. They were sitting in the middle of the AUS standings - something Hutchison says is uncommon.

"In my 15 or so years being [on the Tigers coaching staff], we haven't gone into this period in sixth place ever, that I can think of," he says.

The Tigers have had a few rough outings, losing two games to the Cape Breton Capers and one to the Mount Allison Mounties. The Mounties game, however, is the one that frustrates Hutchison the most. He says he's noticed the team has not come prepared during their first games of the weekend.

"It may be a bi-productive of the several new faces in the lineup not coming prepared," he says. "But all of a sudden, they pick it up in game two."

That changed completely, however, following the Tigers' 7-0 demolition of the Université de Moncton Aigles-Bleus on the road. They kept their momentum going the next day, beating the

Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) 10th-ranked UNB Varsity-Reds 1-0 to boost them to fourth place in the AUS standings.

However, Hutchison knows there is still work to do. They've lost two games to the Cape Breton Capers, one by a score of 5-0. Two of the Tigers' five wins have come against the Saint Mary's Huskies, who sit in the basement of the AUS standings with a 0-8-1 record.

"It's one of those games that is best described by stats," says Hutchison, in regards to the five-goal loss to the Capers. "They had six shots on net and scored five. All of a sudden, your head falls a little bit and you're down, and before you know it you want

somebody to turn off the lights so we can get out of here."

After her hat-trick against the Aigles-Bleus, Michelle Yates, who received first-team all-star honours as a Huskie in 2012, leads the Tigers in goals with six. Hutchison says her lead-by-example attitude is a reflection of what he wants his team to become.

"She's a high achiever," he says. "She's the one putting in the extra runs. She's the one in the top three of your fitness sessions. She's the one coming for extra help and talking to you about getting better. She's arguably the best player on the team and still comes in for extra help, and [if you're her teammate] you've got to think, 'where do I fit into this picture?'"

Third-year Victoria Parkinson is the next highest goal scorer with four. Hutchison says she is a key component to the team's success.

"If I can put it nicely, Victoria Parkinson is wildcard. And you just don't tame a wildcard; you let it play," he says. "With her read and understanding of the game, you just have to let her go."

With AUS Championships hosted by Dal for the first time in ten years, the Tigers are guaranteed a spot in the playoff picture. Despite this, he says the Tigers shouldn't be taking their foot off the gas.

"Having it at home is nice and definitely takes some of the stress off, but I'm not sure it's a good thing. We're still going to be ramping up the intensity in practices to make sure we're at our best for the championship weekend," he said.

The schedule does not get any easier for the Tigers as the regular season winds down. They take on the Acadia Axewomen on Oct. 17, against whom they were able to squeak out a tie, followed by a home game against the surging UPEI Panthers who sit third in the AUS rankings. They'll then have a match against the redemption-seeking X-Women on Oct. 25 and will conclude the regular season against the Memorial Seahawks who have found their groove as of late, with an 5-3-1 record identical to the Tigers.

Despite their recent success, Hutchison says the team has a lot of work to do if they want to be considered a competitor in the AUS Championships.

"It's the work ethic that needs to be there in the AUS to be successful, and I think some of those things need to get in line." ☺

This interview was conducted prior to the Tigers' 7-0 win over the Université de Moncton and their 1-0 win over UNB.



Photo by Alexander Maxwell

10/04 Men's Soccer Dalhousie 3 at Moncton 1	10/05 Men's Soccer Dalhousie 0 at UNB 1	10/04 Women's Soccer Dalhousie 7 at Moncton 0	10/05 Women's Soccer Dalhousie 1 at UNB 0	10/04 Men's Hockey Dalhousie 2 vs UMass-Amherst 5	10/05 Men's Hockey Dalhousie 1 vs UConn 3	10/03 Men's Basketball Dalhousie 72 vs Ryerson 97	10/04 Men's Basketball Dalhousie 85 vs Toronto 77	10/04 Football UNBSJ 17 at Dalhousie 16
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Championed underdog sees ultimate win

Cole Harbour fighter wins debut at Halifax's first UFC card

Jesse Ward
Editor-in-Chief



Photo by Jesse Ward

The UFC's first night in Halifax was sold out for weeks before it hit the news that one of Cole Harbour's own MMA fighters would be on the card.

But from the crowd's reaction when Chris Kelades made his way to the octagon on Saturday, you'd have a hard time believing he hadn't been the main draw all along.

Audience members, some holding Nova Scotia flags, roared for Kelades as he made his way up the aisle to Jimi Hendrix's *All Along The Watchtower*.

The two fights on the card leading up to his match both ended in the first round – a submission in 38 seconds, and a TKO in just over a minute.

Yet, while the combatants in these matches had prepared for weeks for their fights, Kelades only had five days notice to train and lose nearly 25 pounds to make weight for his first Ultimate Fighting Championship match.

He was fighting in the place of another contender who couldn't

attend because of pneumonia. "I was kind of thrown in the whirlwind a little bit, the paper and the radio and all this," Kelades says.

The fight started with the undefeated Irishman Patrick Holohan going on the offensive against the 5'7" Kelades. Holohan sidemounted the former youth pastor tight against the cage while getting a few clean punches.

Kelades escaped from Holohan's hold and seemed to briefly gain confidence after landing a hard right. Back on the ground, however, the Dubliner got Kelades into a dangerous rear-mount, getting very close to a rear-naked choke before the round's end.

Both men, bruised, looked like they could use a nap after the tumultuous first round. After their corner teams helped them out, they recommenced.

The second round started with the Kelades softening his opponent with heavy knees from the clinch. After a takedown two minutes in, Kelades rained blows on Holohan from the north-south and made a strong guillo-



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tine attempt from the guard. As he punched Holohan's face, the audience yelled upon each blow.

Back on their feet, Holohan appeared to gain momentum, but the 5'10" fighter soon faced a powerful double-leg takedown.

The remainder of the round saw a ground-and-pound with Kelades sitting comfortably in a full mount. With only ten seconds left, Kelades attempted an armbar on Holohan, who was narrowly saved by the clock.

With the support of the crowd, Kelades says, in the third round he knew there was no way he wasn't going to give it his all. The

crowd was his turbo boost.

After a round's worth of back-and-forth between the flyweights, the judges came to a unanimous decision and awarded Kelades the win. Kelades' hand being raised as the winner's roused a standing, screaming ovation from the audience.

The fight was named fight of the night. While only Kelades gets to say he won, both mixed martial artists were awarded \$50,000 for this achievement.

Like so many punches this night, Kelades didn't let the victory go to his head.

"Nobody's going to go for short

notice over a full camp, but I'll take the opportunities as they present themselves," says Kelades about his future fighting prospects. "I want time now to develop my skills, get better, be more prepared so I can face somebody else." 🐅

Ethical disclosure: this event was attended via media accreditation by Zuffa, LLC. This writer had a single complimentary cup of coffee with cream in it and a complimentary 591ml bottle of Diet Coke.

STREETEER

How do you express your freedom of speech?

by Amin Helal and Jesse Ward



"I've never had a problem with it."

Andrew Solomon
1st-year Kinesiology



"I talk about DSU elections."

Gerardo Zapata
3rd-year Marine Biology



"By never cowing my views publicly. I'm able to express what I believe."

Meagan Weiderman
2nd-year Neuroscience



"I complain to my professors a lot."

Nicole Tansaah
3rd-year Economics and Math



"I talk about DSU elections."

Sam Robb
3rd-year Marine Biology



"I just do what I want to, when I want to do it."

Trevor Silver
1st-year Business Management

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Old Heart by Amber Solberg



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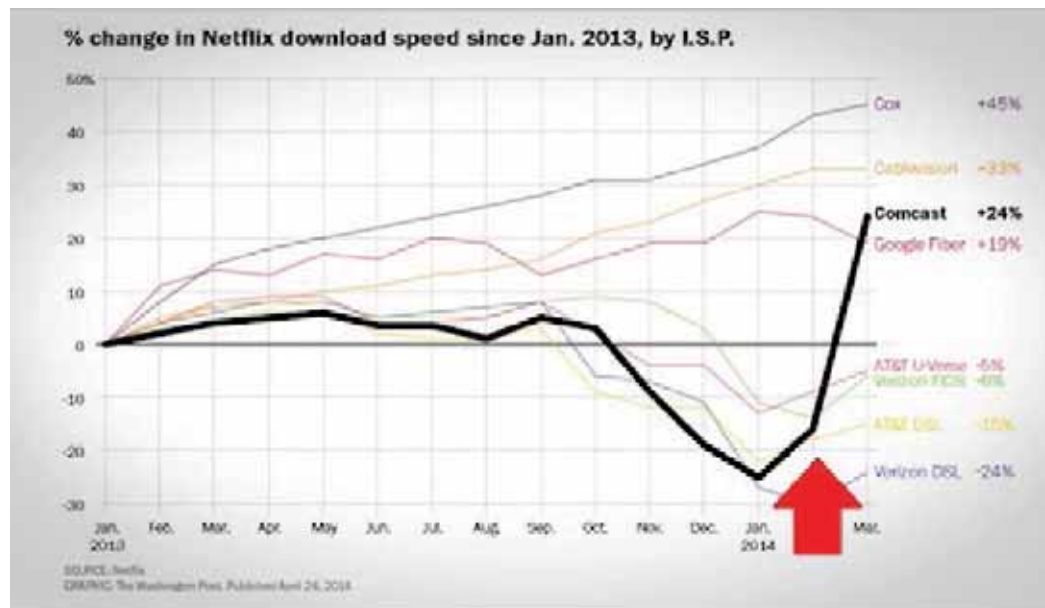
Why you should care about Net Neutrality

Allan Dunn
Contributor
Industrial '15

The internet is the most versatile system in the world. We use it for games, to read or watch the news, to binge-watch TV, to make and keep friends, for researching and learning... the list goes on and on. It's the most amazing resource for knowledge and communication that humanity has ever had. What makes the system this versatile is how open it is; you can find almost anything you're looking for with just a web search. This aspect of our beloved internet is now being threatened by the debate over Net Neutrality.

Google defines Net Neutrality as allowing internet users direct control over what content they view and which applications they use on the internet. This helps to ensure that anyone communicating or conducting business over the internet can do so without interference from a third party.

The most well-known example of this kind of interference is in the battle between Netflix, a video streaming service, and Comcast, a large internet service provider (ISP) in the United States. For anyone who hasn't heard about this yet, the general idea is this: Netflix noticed that customers were receiving slower and slower streaming rates, meaning that videos were taking longer to load and more frequently stopping altogether. Comcast offered to correct this for Netflix if they agreed to pay for a better



direct connection. The above graph shows the decline of Netflix's download speeds on the Comcast network, and the immediate spike following payment (indicated by the red arrow).

You might be thinking something along the lines of "If Netflix wants better service, why shouldn't they be paying for it?" But there is in fact a problem with that. If ISPs can effectively charge companies and websites for the right to have their content viewed, then any and all websites that currently offer free content will have to start charging users just to be able to see them. What's your favourite social media platform? Reddit, Facebook, Twitter... you name it. These sites are in a constant state of activity, but who could afford to use them if they

charged a fee for every update? Want to watch a video of your friend's cat? That'll be a dollar. Checking out pictures of someone's trip to Europe? Fifty cents. The very idea of free and accessible information is being attacked here.

Another scary implication of losing Net Neutrality is censorship. If an ISP finds something unsavoury, they can block that content before the end users ever get the chance to read it. An example of this is from 2005, when certain blogs by labour unions were blocked on Telus's network during an employee strike. The blog was run "by and for Telecommunication Workers Union members" and in support of the strike. This website was blocked from all Telus internet subscribers. It's worth noting that in Bell Canada's terms of

use, they reserve the right to "review materials... and remove materials in their sole discretion." This has come to be known as Network Discrimination.

The internet is an incredibly recent innovation in our history, with an even more incredible rate of evolution. As such, the cogs and gears of regulatory bodies are slow to keep up with the ever-changing internet landscape. This is why there are relatively few laws and regulations in general with regard to the world wide web. As these discussions play out, the future of technology and communication will be shaped. Anyone interested in following or having a voice in this debate can join the Canadians for Net Neutrality group on Facebook.



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