

The Dalhousie Gazette

North America's Oldest Campus Newspaper, Est. 1868

***Students advocate
for women's-only swim
pg 19***

***Mental Health
Awareness
Week, pg 4***



FREE!

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

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DISPATCH

ISJ DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION

unlearn rape culture

Unlearn rape culture

Rape culture is the condoning and normalizing of physical, emotional, and sexual terrorism predominantly against women, girls, trans* people, and queers. It disproportionately affects marginalized communities who experience daily systemic oppression based on sex, gender, race, class, physical ability and mental health status.

Rape culture is the production and perpetuation of environments where rape is so normative that people ultimately believe that the objectification and assault of these people is inevitable.

- Challenging rape culture means holding perpetrators accountable for their actions and not using the behaviour of survivors to excuse what happened to them, which is called victim-blaming.
- Challenging rape culture means teaching “don’t rape” instead of “don’t be raped”.
- Challenging rape culture means developing, encouraging, and practicing enthusiastic consent. It means (re)thinking our behaviours, boundaries, and how we do our relationships. **ISJ**

CAMPAIGN UPDATES

For more information on the DSU Equity and Accessibility Office Unlearn campaign, check out this website: dsu.ca/services/dsu-equity-accessibility-office/campaigns/unlearn
Or, find up on facebook at “DSU Equity & Accessibility Committee”.



Issues of authority

Jesse Ward
Editor-in-chief

Writing in the early 1980s, author and media theorist Neil Postman started his book *The Disappearance of Childhood* saying, “Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see.”

In Canada, in 2014, where nearly everything written and said ends up in a database to be analyzed at a later date, it’s reasonable to assume everything we do is a living message we send to a time we will not see.

In the late nineteenth century, the writers and editors of the *Dalhousie College Gazette* were not thinking about how their paper – subscriptions sold for a nickel at the janitor’s office – would end up converted into a series of 0s and 1s analyzed by machines on Dalhousie campus.

Yet as of this week, every issue of the *Gazette’s* 147-volume print run – excluding this volume and volume 146, which you may find at Dalgazette.com for now – is available for browsing on Dalhousie’s online institutional repository, DalSpace.

Maybe you already know this – it’s possible you’re reading this editorial digitally, the year 2014 has long since passed, and this editorial is dripping with irony.

If it’s true you’ve stumbled across this page via Dal’s digital archives, you may even find the ideas presented here appear in other editorials across the years.

Pick any two issues of the *Gazette* published since 1868, and you will find similarities.

Earlier this month, we published a story on Dalhousie’s new, stricter, hazing policies – a policy being applied to the men’s rugby team as this issue goes to print.

In 1967, our first issue of the year also had an article on a new hazing policy. The students’ council had decided orientation week should focus more on academics,

so the hazing of freshmen was targeted.

Dennis Ashworth, Students’ Council president at the time, was reported as saying, “Hazing will be limited to groups of ten or more, and will take place on the campus.”

“This is definite policy, adopted by council last year, and will be rigidly enforced.”

The rigid enforcement of limiting hazing to large groups on campus may sound funny today for being so far removed from current social norms, but the hazing problem is addressed nearly every year.

This eternal recurrence of the same stories isn’t the result of a lack of imagination keeping our reporters forever following old topics – it’s simply a fact that issues like hazing and tuition are always legitimate areas of interest and concern to university life.

It will not be long until researchers, scholars and data analysts have tagged, made searchable and analyzed the archives of every newspaper, including this one. The trends of recorded history will be totally bared, and we will be forced to face their results.

For example – as editor-in-chief of the *Gazette*, I currently couldn’t tell you how many times an issue of this paper has been printed that was not what the editors intended to send to print. Once analysis is done on our archives, it might be easier to tell.

For now, I can only say that last week’s issue was not entirely what we intended to have printed.

Issue 147-04 of the *Gazette* was published with some erroneous pages. A miscommunication with our printer resulted in some pages from a draft version we sent over being printed after we sent off a revised edition and received confirmation this second version would indeed be printed.

In the print edition of issue 147-04, the headline for our story looking at the controversy of vio-



Out of control, or...?. ••• Photo by Jesse Ward

lence at DalFest 2014 – “DalFest: Out of control or just a good time?” – shows up twice. The headline is duplicated in the sub-headline – the sub-headline was removed in our editing process, it was not meant to remain as some kind of innovative tool for emphasis.

It’s also worth mentioning it was the women’s basketball team who supplied us with photos of the women’s basketball trip to Germany, not the women’s volleyball team.

The PDF of issue 147-04 we shared online this week reflects further changes that were made before printing, but did not reach publication.

So when it comes time for issue 147-04 to be added to DalSpace, which issue will Dal’s archivists

go with? They will have to decide which has more authority – the issue that was printed, or the digital issue we intended to have seen.

While our team of editors is more than satisfied with how it finally turned out, issue 147-04 of the *Gazette* was not *Ulysses*. Ninety years from now, scholars will not debate the merits of the revisions or authorial intentions of this issue – if this editorial was never written, maybe the errors with last week’s print issue would still never have bothered anyone

and no future research efforts would be disrupted.

But the questions posed by deciding which version of last week’s issue should be determined as authoritative serve to remind us that as research and publishing methods evolve with technology, we must find new ways to question the intention and accuracy of documents left behind. ☹

On the cover:

Yusra Tadj, news and sports contributor, stands in front of the Dalplex pool in this photo by Amin Helal. Read about how the Dalplex could host a women’s-only swim time on page 19.



A mental Health Awareness banner from 2013. ••• Photo by Zoe Bourdeleau-Cass

Mental Health Awareness Week Kicks Off on Monday

Student Health Promotion creates a weeklong discussion about mental health from Oct. 6 to Oct. 10

Sabina Wex
Assistant News Editor

Leading up to World Mental Health Day, Dalhousie's Student Health Promotion (SHP) department will host its own Mental Health Awareness Week from Oct. 6. To Oct. 10.

This is the second Mental Health Awareness Week that SHP community leader Zoe Bourdeleau-Cass will run.

"There's this huge stigma around it, and what was amazing about the project was that it really became this safe space [last year]," says Bourdeleau-Cass.

"It was a really excellent outcome that we hadn't necessarily planned, and we're hoping in some ways to bring that back."

Bourdeleau-Cass says that last year, students responded well to SHP's banners with mental health-related questions. Students could paint and draw whatever they wanted on the banners,

"Students have such a busy, fast-paced life that they sometimes forget to just have fun and just hang out with other students"

which contained questions like, "What does mental health mean to you?" and "What are some mental health issues on campus?"

The banners will be out again, but in an indoor location so they won't be damaged by weather.

Although Mental Health Awareness Week is only five days, SHP can help students find resources to deal with mental health issues all year round. Bourdeleau-Cass says the SHP staff often discuss ways to deal with stress and depression, as they've noticed these are the two major mental health issues on campus.

Mental Health Awareness

Week kicks off on Monday with a panel discussion about mental health issues amongst different populations. The discussion will feature representatives from Dal as well as community organisations, such as DalOut and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

SHP will be setting up a booth, likely in the Student Union Building (SUB), where there will be cards that say, "My mental health story is..." Anyone can write whatever they want on the card anonymously. The cards, collectively called the mental health stories campaign, will be displayed

beside the SHP office in the new building on LeMarchant Street.

"I think you really have to have these safe spaces and safe areas, where people feel comfortable talking openly about these things," says Bourdeleau-Cass, "or, like we're doing with the stories campaign, keeping it anonymous."

There will also be the opportunity to make paper cranes to show support for mental health. SHP offers three different colours of paper to represent different things: green means "I know someone living with a mental health issue", purple means "I have a mental health issue" and yellow means "I support the cause". The cranes will hang in the SUB during Mental Health Awareness Week, as well as the following week.

"It's just an awareness campaign to show that this is an issue that exists," says Bourdeleau-Cass. "And people make a conscious choice of what colour they want to choose."

On Friday, to celebrate World

Mental Health Day, SHP will be hosting a relaxation room in the SUB.

"Students have such a busy, fast-paced life that they sometimes forget to just have fun and just hang out with other students," says Bourdeleau-Cass. "I think a really big thing is creating community and creating things that are fun that people can do together – and healthy things that are fun that people can do together."

Bourdeleau-Cass recommends board games and sports rather than partying and drinking a lot. The SHP staff will soon be trained in mental health first-aid response. This means they can help a student in crisis find the proper place for support, such as the emergency room or a psychologist.

"Why would we not have a week where we have the opportunity to do these things and talk about these things openly," says Bourdeleau-Cass, "and really digress where this is coming from?"

Student Accommodation Policy broadens focus

Policy attempts to eliminate discrimination from education

Rachel Collier
News Contributor

Dalhousie's updated accessibility policy allows accessibility service staff to help students avoid conflicts between academic performance and any protected human right. The policy came into effect Sept. 1.

"It's our job to try to help students determine if there is an appropriate accommodation for their particular circumstance," says Quenta Adams, director of Dal's Advising and Access Services.

Human rights that are protected in Nova Scotia include religion, family status, gender identity, race, physical disabilities and mental disabilities.

The new policy makes it less of a hassle for staff to approve accommodations for a range of protected rights broader than just mental and physical disabilities. Yet there are still limits to the accommodations that Dal offers to provide, such as financial costs, the size and nature of the program and the academic requirements of the program.

"Accommodations for religious observance are the second-

most requested after disabilities," Adams said.

Family status is another protected right where some simple accommodations, like breaks during exams and safe areas for breastfeeding, can make a big difference.

"It is the responsibility of every member of the Dalhousie University community to be knowledgeable on institutional policies related to prohibited grounds for discriminatory practices and accessibility," states the new policy.

This is partly why Adams strongly encourages any student to speak with the accessibility office about how they can achieve their best performance at Dal.

The National Center for Learning Disabilities has found that one in five children and adults have learning and attention issues. The World Health Organization has found that one in four people in the world will be affected by mental health or neurological disorders at some point.

"Those numbers are not necessarily reflected in terms of who actually self-identifies, whether it's through their application or through this office," says Adams.

Adams says she challenges the



Protected human rights to be given more attention. ••• Photo by Amin Helal

idea that accommodations provide an unfair advantage to students. She added that the office consults with both students and professors when approving accommodations.

Adams says the ultimate goal is for professors to cater to the broadest demographic of students and their learning styles.

"We're more concerned with the barriers," Adams said. "So,

what are the barriers that you're facing on campus, and let's help to address them so that students can essentially show their best." ☺

The results are in on Dalhousie's Equity and Accessibility Survey

Students highlight Dalhousie's problems and progress

Grailing Anthonisen
News Contributor

The Equity and Accessibility Office of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) have released the results of their 2013-2014 survey, with an overall "positive" reaction to questions posed.

Despite progress, there is still work to be done, the survey concludes.

The survey collected information about the experiences of roughly 170 respondents on a variety of topics, ranging from physical accessibility and gender issues to financial costs of university. The Equity and Accessibility Office plans to use the survey

to inform the DSU about what is and isn't working.

Dal has about 18,000 students and fewer than 200 surveys were completed. Jillian Banfield, author of the survey and its report, said, "We wanted to get responses from students who often don't have a voice or aren't given an opportunity to voice their concerns, so we did target certain events where we knew there would be underrepresented types of students."

The survey revealed issues for transgender students, from a lack of gender-neutral washrooms to a need for "better access to services and spaces". Dal still lacks a comprehensive policy for issues involving transgender students.

University policy is to deal with these issues on a case-by-case basis.

International students were not a prime focus of this survey, but the results revealed that some felt

unwelcome at DSU events and underrepresented by the union's executives. International students also said there was a lack of understanding from staff and faculty as well as a lack of academic support.

Many of Dal's buildings were cited as physically inaccessible to students. It was suggested that all renovations and new building projects should be designed with accessibility as a primary goal.

As well, a need for more services and better engagement for aboriginal students was indicated by the responses in the survey. It was reported that there was a lack of aboriginal culture represented on campus and a need for more aboriginal programming.

The Sexton campus was referred to as being ignored by the DSU. Comments also indicated that Sexton campus has a shortage of female washrooms, which can only be found on the main floor of one building.

The new preferred name policy, which requires the school to use students' preferred names rather than their legal or given name, was referenced as a stride forward for the university.

Banfield suggests students keep speaking up to improve the campus and campus life.

"Students can keep reminding the administration and reminding the DSU that we know these are issues that exist, that need to be addressed," says Banfield. ☺



Picture supplied

DFA wants all to be involved in provincial funding talks

Government to make financial arrangements with Dal without having staff, faculty, student representatives at the meeting

Sabina Wex
Assistant News Editor

Dalhousie faculty, students and staff will be excluded from this year's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), where Dal discusses funding arrangements with the province for the next three years.

In response to the exclusion of Dal's key stakeholders, the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) joined the Nova Scotia Post-Secondary Education Coalition to write a letter to the three major provincial party leaders. The letter asks for students, staff and faculty to be included in the discussion.

The DFA reports that in the past 12 years, Dal has increased its funding towards adding new buildings and administrative costs, yet has cut funding toward faculties. DFA President Catrina Brown says that \$130 million of operating funds have gone toward buildings.

"I don't ever hear students say, 'I want to go to a university that has really bright, new, shiny buildings,'" says Brown.

Brown acknowledges the province has cut funding for the university, but she continues to see cuts toward educational resources, while the university continues to add new buildings every year. Dal opened the LeMarchant Place building this year and is planning to rip down many of the properties along South St. to create a new fitness centre.

Facing cuts, most departments don't have many tenure positions available. The Faculty of Health Professions contains 40 per cent of the university's limited-term positions, yet the law school and medical school have more tenure-stream positions.

"Some programs literally just get dwindled out because they're not considered important enough," says Brown. "And who makes those decisions, which departments are more important? On what basis? Is it money? Is it the labour force?"

During last year's library funding model consultations, the Fac-



The DFA has reached out to the provincial government with a letter explaining their cause. ••• Photo by Jesse Ward

ulty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) complained repeatedly that they were being slighted in prioritization. The library consultations for a new funding model have continued in to this year, so its model for last year hasn't been received. But if it had gone through, FASS would have had their library allocation cut by 43 per cent since 2008/09.

Brown says she believes the reason the Coalition happened was because educators across the province continue to hear that the universities don't have enough money to properly fund educational resources.

"Teaching and learning are the foundation of Dalhousie University," says Dal's senior communications advisor, Janet Bryson, via email. "Listening to our students and faculty is key to the success of our community, especially as we

face constrained budgets."

Brown says that with much of the teaching assigned to limited-term and sessional staff, it takes away the research opportunities that faculty expected to have after completing their PhDs. The university assigns them such a high volume of work that they have no time to devote to research – and they aren't even paid well.

Intellectual integrity is compromised since the tenure-stream staff are the ones creating the course outlines rather than the ones who are teaching most of the classes. A recent CBC report says half of Canadian undergraduates are taught by limited-term staff.

"You're not being taught by tenure-stream faculty, you're paying higher tuition than ever, going increasingly in to debt as you graduate, with bigger class sizes," says Brown about students.

"You're kind of paying more and getting less."

This is the first MOU since 2005 that students haven't been involved in. Usually the MOU includes two student observers.

Before the 2013 provincial election, the Liberal party said in a Students Nova Scotia (SNS) questionnaire that it would include students in post-secondary education related decisions.

"Students have to be part of the conversation when it comes to our post-secondary education system," reads the Liberals' response. "We cannot move forward without our students."

In April 2014, the provincial government cut \$35 million from its budget by eliminating the Graduation Retention Rebate, a program introduced in 2009 to keep graduates in Nova Scotia.

"We're being excluded from

being at the table without having violated any agreements," SNS executive director Jonathan Williams said. "I think we're going to be taking a lot of steps to push back on this government."

The government said that it plans to hold focus groups with students, faculty and the public regarding this year's MOU.

"You start with the issue of what's happening with money, but in the end, it's what's happening with education," says Brown.

"Leading to the ultimate question of, what is the real direction of post-secondary education? What's the real direction of the university in terms of education and its core principles and values, which are about education?" ☎

DSU aiming to accommodate budget deficit

Executives analyze situation at DSU financial town hall

Nebal Shan
News Contributor

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) announced at its financial town hall last week that it has a \$11,151 budget deficit.

But DSU VP (finance and operations) Mahbubur Rahman says he's optimistic.

"An \$11,000 deficit is not that much. I have confidence that I want to balance this budget," said Rahman at the Sept. 25 town hall.

"The budget is being made in a conservative manner and our operations are not making a great amount of money, but are still doing well. So we are on the right track."

Accommodating the deficit will only be possible if the DSU cuts down on expenses. Funds going towards advocacy groups are one of the major expenses in this year's budget.

"When the budget was made in March, there was confusion about whether or not the DSU will be part of SNS and CASA," Rahman said. "That's why the number went up."

Since the DSU is not a CASA member anymore, it plans to use part of that money for a new staff position in the advocacy office.

Another source of expenses is full-time and executive wages. The six per cent increase in this area is a result of the DSU policy to increase staff salary five per cent each year.

"With some people working at the DSU for 15 years, the increase accumulates," Rahman said.

In response to students' requests, Rahman says the DSU is considering improving its budget transparency by posting departmental budgets, including salaries, if there are no regulations against such an action. The board of operations will also be reviewing the staff salary structure.

Changing Revenues

According to Rahman, the revenues in this year's budget are the same as last year, despite changes in revenue structure.

The DSU no longer receives money from Aramark since it did

not renew their contract. Chartwells became the food provider in 2012. Rahman said this change is a price that must be paid for more choices and control over food-providing operations.

However, the DSU is reviewing its contract with Chartwells, and is also considering a self-operations food model for the near future.

Without money from Aramark or Dal (the university usually provides funding for some establishments on campus, but not this year) the DSU is mostly dependent on students for funding right now.

The student levy supports not only the operations budget, which funds things like the Grawood, but levied societies and projects, such as Tiger Patrol. The DSU decides the sum given to these services based on student satisfaction.

Rahman says a long-term goal for the DSU is to increase their funding from outside parties to decrease the student levy. Next year's budget also improves opportunities personal and society grants.

For example, students can apply for the personal grant (\$100 per year), which allows them to attend conferences, workshops, and other events that help them in their academic and extra-curricular activities.

The DSU also introduced the O-Week bursary this year, giving full bursaries to 11 students and partial bursaries to seven. The DSU is also discussing the emergency bursary program. The DSU is now reaching out to students for feedback and suggestions.

"My next goal when making the budget for the winter is to concentrate on working in focus groups with different students and societies," says Rahman. "And there will be a town hall where students can give their opinions about the budget."

The budget is available on the DSU website. ☎



The DSU financial town hall had a total turnout of 12. ••• Photo by Jesse Ward

The university in today's world

Panel discusses what the "business" of the university is in the 21st century

Yusraa Tadj
News Contributor

On Sept. 26, the "Business of the University in the 21st Century" was discussed at a symposium hosted by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) Atlantic, a group of Canadian scholars focused on research and promoting the arts and humanities.

Panel discussions were the main event of the symposium, with topics including the importance of university research and its funding sources, impacts of failed research, the role of students in society and the future of online learning classes.

The symposium invited RSC fellows, Atlantic Canadian university presidents and vice presidents, student union presidents

and others involved in university life.

One of many professors attending was RSC member and assistant professor of biomedical science at the University of P.E.I., Sunny Hartwig. She attended the symposium in order to learn ways to better help her students by listening to the experts in field.

"The university is one of the few environments that provides four years of unique experience between the younger and older generation. It is a source where different backgrounds, histories and cultures meet. This usually changes a person," says Hartwig.

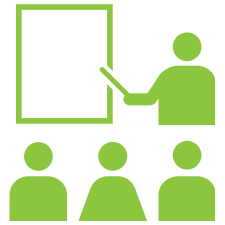
Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) were one of the topics discussed at the symposium. Such a course has the potential for unlimited online participation, but has inevitable negatives

as well.

Hartwig discussed her thoughts about such a radical change to learning becoming a reality, saying she would be "disappointed, because screens would not be able to provide a human touch. Especially because the younger generation is connected to be disconnected."

Justin Corcoran, vice president (advocacy) from Mount Saint Vincent University, attended the symposium as a representative from the university, but also out of interest for what officials had to say at the event.

"Students are funding society not just through economic growth," says Corcoran when asked about the role of students in today's world. "Students are a resource to the community." ☎



(Ghost) Town Hall

Addressing apathy starts with our elected representatives

John Hillman
Opinions Editor

The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) held its first town hall meeting of the year recently. I've attended quite a few of these meetings in the past, and I must say, the turnout was remarkable.

Back in 2008, our union of 15,000 students could barely muster 30 students out to its September town hall event. The Gazette published stories about this awful turnout – it was down significantly from previous events, and most of the crowd consisted of Gazette reporters and DSU councillors.

Fast-forward six years. When

I walked into room 303 Thursday night, I recalled the immortal words of basketball great Kevin Garnett. Anything is possible.

Somehow, some way, we managed to repel more students than ever before.

Turnout this year made 2008 look like the Arab Spring by comparison. I scanned the room a few minutes into the event and counted four DSU executives, three Gazette writers, two DSU councillors, and a pair of concerned students. Eleven people, almost all of whom were the very definition of DSU insiders.

This is usually the point in the article where I would jump on the executive and start accusing them of

fostering apathy, subverting democracy, plotting to reanimate Lenin, etc. Not this time though.

Sure, there were things the executive could have done better to promote the event. I'm willing to give them the benefit of the doubt on this one though – it was their first try this year, and it is notoriously hard to convince students to come out for these types of sessions. I suspect that next time around they'll move the event to a more visible location and wow us with more innovative advertising.

The turnout, though, begs a much more important question that has nothing to do with the venue or the promotion. Where were the councillors?



We can probably cut the pizza budget. ••• Photo by Jesse Ward

I checked the DSU website, and it looks like there are 35 council positions, excluding the executive. I'm sure a few councillors had valid reasons for missing the event, but it's hard to extend the benefit of the doubt to the full 94 per cent who didn't show.

Some of the truant politicians might argue that this was a town hall meeting, not a session of council. Why should councillors show up if this was meant to be an opportunity for the average student to have their voices heard?

While I wholeheartedly agree that the event should focus on the input of students who don't have speaking rights every second Wednesday, that doesn't mean councillors should simply take the night off.

From a practical perspective, the presence of councillors at these events can help spark important discussions. Councillors are generally more familiar with the issues than the average student. They are in an excellent position to ask tough questions – to bring attention to thorny issues that the most attendees might not immediately turn their mind to when a presenter asks if there are any questions.

On a deeper symbolic level,

councillors need to think about the message they are sending when they decide not to attend these sorts of consultations. DSU politics can be aggravating, complicated, and mind-numbingly circuitous. The issues are important, but it takes a rare breed of political gator to thrive in the DSU's swampy waters. Our councillors are the nerds we elect to do the caring for us – the wonkiest of the wonks – and if they can't be bothered to show up, it says a lot about how important the event is in the grand scheme of things.

Let's face it: there are other, more exciting ways to spend a Thursday night. The Grawood has cheap wings. Law students have discount drinks at Domus. Gazette editors have the thrill of wondering if promised submissions will appear in their inboxes. If the DSU expects students to drag themselves out to events with thrilling titles like "Hot Topic: Finance", then the elected student reps had better start leading by example. ☹



Squint, and you may be able to spot the democracy. ••• Photo by Jesse Ward

Rankings do matter

Dalhousie University moving up in the QS University Rankings

Anfernee Duncombe
Opinions Contributor

What are university rankings all about and why should you care?

Each year, Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a British company specializing in study abroad opportunities and higher education, releases a list of the top universities in the world. This year, Dal has made an exciting nine-spot jump from 244th to 235th in the rankings. Out of the 3,000 schools examined and the 863 that made the list, Dal is doing pretty well. While there are more than a few people who think university rankings are a complete waste of time and serve no purpose beyond a group of people telling you that some schools appear to be better than others, they actually serve as a great gateway for universities to reach students that would not normally know about them otherwise.

Leading up to selecting Dal as my top-choice university, university rankings were all I would ever speak about. While Dal was 244th in the world in last year's rankings, they were 12th in Canada. That played a huge part in



We're number 235! We're number 235! ••• Photo by Alex Maxwell

my decision to come here, as I'm sure it did for a lot of the other international students. When

getting a first-hand look at the campus and the faculties is out of the question, the Internet

becomes a very close friend. (QS University Rankings were definitely my best friend last year.)

So university rankings help students find the school, but how does that prove that the ranking itself is not a complete waste of time? While I will admit there are far more university ranking publications than there needs to be, some of which are massively opinionated and just generally unhelpful, QS follows a methodology in listing schools that actually contains important factors. According to the QS website, there are six distinctive indicators that make up the methodology: academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty/student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty, and international students. Personally, I think it just makes sense to want to know if the school is actually a good school before you attend. Also, wouldn't you want to know ahead of time if the entire biology department had a faculty to student ratio of 10:1? The QS university rankings provide us with some solid information, and even if you aren't a fan of such rankings, it's hard not to like that Dal is climbing the list. ☹

Hungry students are the future

New report suggests generational wage gap larger than ever

Dijay Savory
Opinions Contributor

Is it any surprise that young people aren't happy with their work prospects? According to a new report by the Conference Board of Canada, the income gap between the young and the old has been growing at breakneck speeds since the 1980s. This is just another message to the youth of today that the people in power, the last generation (and the one before that too – everyone is working longer than they used to) does not want the new workforce to have the same benefits they did.

We've never had a stronger grasp of the statistics, economics, and policies that shape our society. We can crunch the numbers

to find out what kind of atmosphere a customer wants in a fast-food restaurant, but we can't line up minimum wage with inflation? Yeah, right. In a time when everyone and their mother has a degree, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who couldn't explain to you the problems with increasing taxes and cost of living while cutting social benefits and hours worked. Unless you asked in a private country club, I guess.

Media commentators often gripe about how young people seem to lack the fire of previous generations – that they need to grow up, show more ambition, and take control of their own lives. What could possibly disenfranchise a young person more than knowing the combination of ballooning education costs

and pitiful employment prospects means they will have to work for decades before they're even out of student loan debt?

My grandfather is still working. I don't begrudge him that, because he's gotta pay bills too. But that's a job that one of my peers, fresh out of school with some shiny degree, can't possibly compete for. Our aging population is still in the workforce, and these people in the "prime of their lives" control most of the decently paying jobs left in the increasingly lean employment market. How are people with blank resumes supposed to compete with folks their parents' age who've got pages of work experience? (Please don't utter the words 'unpaid internships' just yet, because I only have so much space here, and that form of exploita-

tion is a rant for another day.)

The graduate the Globe and Mail interviewed for their coverage of the Conference Board of Canada's report said she couldn't place blame for the struggles she faces in finding work – that "it's not like someone planned it that way." I think she gives too much credit to the mega-corporations that hire millions of people across many countries. There would be disasters if teams of accountants and statisticians weren't working to keep things moving smoothly, and I think part of that process is maximizing profits while minimizing payouts. The kind of manipulation involved in keeping books for enormous businesses seems to me to require planning – how else could Walmart afford to pay eight executives \$250 mil-

lion in the last quarter? Spoiler alert: it wasn't by paying their entry-level staff a livable wage.

We've already convinced kids to work by giving them mountains of debt (whoops, I meant "education"). Now we should be giving them incentives to do good work. It doesn't help the workforce if the largest employer only hires part-time at minimum wage. That just sets the standard too low.

"But if we paid them for forty hours a week we'd have to give them benefits too!" Yes, that's the hope. Maybe they'll even be able to retire once they hit sixty! Given that the alternative is the youth of 2055 complaining about our generation hogging all the part-time pizza delivery gigs, we should probably start distributing that wealth. ☹

From the Archives

Howdy Neighbours!

John Hillman
Opinions Editor

“Ragamuffins” – Vol. 5, Issue 3 – December 14, 1872

Ever since Dalhousie came into existence its students have been annoyed by the ragamuffins that congregate on the Parade. All day long the Parade swarms with young scamps who have no regard for the shins or heads of passersby.

Before the snow comes, their young lordships are pleased to amuse themselves at “Hurley” or “Hockey” or whatever they may please to call it. It is absolutely unsafe sometimes for anyone to venture to cross the Parade. Stones and sticks are flying through the air, and if the ball with which those “City Arabs” are playing happens to fall near ones feet a rush is made at it from all

sides, so that it is a miracle if one escapes without a crack on the shins.

But when nature puts on her mantle of white, their numbers increase rapidly, and they attack us with snowballs. I have seen a small-sized Freshie beset by as many as forty filthy, disgusting specimens of humanity whose very appearance was enough to scare him.

Whenever there is snow enough to make a snowball it goes to the benefit of Dalhousie. Last winter we took the law into our own hands and administered a wholesome dose to some two or three of the young imps by threatening to dissect them.

One of them, unfortunately,

being subject to Epilepsy, took a fit, and his parents were impudent enough to bring an action against three students for assault and battery. The “pater” tried to make them shell out but was promptly requested to go to the d—l, and on his failing to appear the prisoners were discharged.

The “fit” had a salutary effect however, for not once during the latter part of the session was a snowball thrown at any student. We are ready for more lynching if it be necessary. Where are our valiant Peelers? Never on hand when they are wanted. We hope that the city authorities will take some steps towards removing these nuisances. ☹

“Party Big Mess” – Volume 112, Issue 2 – September 20, 1979

Five bus loads of Howe Hall students and two bus loads of Dalhousie orientation students left Halifax’s Crystal Crescent Beach “. . . very, very dirty,” in the words of two workers for the Department of Lands and Forests who had to clean up the next day. However, organizers at Dalhousie say the mess was the result of a misunderstanding and will not happen again.

Valerie and Brian Gray are responsible for looking after the beach at Crystal Crescent. Both were very upset when they came out the day following the party last Thursday night and saw the mess the students had left.

“It was more than exceptionally dirty”, said Valerie Gray. “The centre area of the beach was particularly dirty. It seems they brought in a lot of trees to burn or sit on and then didn’t move them when they left. There were also a lot of beer bottles, pop bottles and food wrappings lying around. Near the trees there was also a lot of broken glass.”

Gray said that it would have taken two or more evenings to clean up the mess if it hadn’t been for a group of students from King’s College who came down to have their own party. The King’s students helped the Grays clean up and then cleaned up most of their own mess before they left.

[...]

“Bikers and Howe Hall residents brawl at strip bar” – Volume 130, Issue 4 – September 25, 1997

Two Howe Hall residents were sent to hospital following a bar brawl with bikers at the Lighthouse strip club on Saturday night.

One student required 27 stitches to his face, while the other received five stitches to close his wounds.

The fight was prompted by a Howe Hall resident (who wishes to remain anonymous) taking to the stage during an intermission. With encouragement from his friends, he danced and removed his clothes.

Upon exiting the stage, he and the other Howe Hall men in attendance were confronted by the manager.

According to one sober patron, the manager and three bikers “got into a huddle” while the Howe Hall resident was leaving the stage. The manager, backed up by

the bikers then asked the rowdy students to leave the premises.

In response to the request to leave, one Howe Hall student asked, “Why?”. He put his beer down, turned to leave and was met by the fists of a goateed biker who, according to the sober patron, “went berserk”.

“Chairs and tables were flying,” said one student.

The Howe Hall residents were from Bronson and Smith Houses.

Howe Hall President Shawn Key says that the trip to the Lighthouse was not an official event and had been organized by friends between the two houses.

Key said that he feels badly about what happened to the residents.

“It was pure, senseless violence,” said Key.

“I talked to the guys involved and asked what happened. They were watching the ladies and drinking and they were just drunk and joking around.

“Two guys came up [to the resident who was dancing on

the stage] and one guy sucker punched him and a big brawl ensued. It seems that the bouncers didn’t do much.

“When they got outside they called the police. Rumour has it they [the bikers] were Hell’s Angels, but we don’t know and the police didn’t seem to care,” said Key.

One Howe Hall resident at the club said that the fight was unexpected, as most patrons appeared to enjoy the drunken performance. He said that the spontaneity of the attack made it “totally unfair” for the Howe Hall residents.

Several frosh squad members in attendance tried to free their fellow students from the melee, but they were hampered by the bouncers.

One squad leader said that the bouncers were ordered to restrain the students who were trying to enter the brawl in aid of their fellow students.

“By the way the bouncer held me by the throat, it looks as if the

bouncer and the [bikers] were friends,” observed a squad leader.

One student managed to return to the bar. Upon entrance, he was told, “We’ll fucking stab your ass.”

Following the brawl, two students were sent to hospital while a third was taken along as a witness in the police car.

The students were taken by one of the two police cars that arrived at the scene.

At the hospital, the physician in attendance said that more than a knuckle was required to cause the damage to one student’s face.

Key said that a valuable lesson has been learned by the residents.

“The guys are okay, and it could have been a lot worse,” remarked Key.

“One guy was badly beaten up, but he’s alright and quite honestly the only thing to say is that it’s a shame something like this happened. The guys involved have the same attitude; they’re not ever going to go back [to the Lighthouse].” ☹



Tools for everyone

Halifax Tool Library preps for its grand opening

Paola Tolentino
Arts Contributor

When thinking about libraries, you'd usually expect books and scratched DVD rentals. Not so for this one.

The Halifax Tool Library is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization dedicated to renting out tools in the HRM. Members pay a \$30-50 yearly fee, and are able to take out any of the library tools. The library runs on donations from the local community – it's a great place to store tools that would otherwise go unused for long periods of time.

The library isn't just about building benches and bookshelves, however. It's meant to bring people together who are passionate about what they do and who want to invest in the larger community, no matter what their level of construction experience.

"It's a catalyst for community building," says Tristan Cleveland, co-director of the library. "It's a core value of ours that people share skills and experiment in something they might enjoy." Cleveland mentions how important community is, especially with the younger population in Halifax.

"Having jobs available is crucial, but part of the equation is getting people involved in Halifax and getting them to think of Halifax as home."

One of the hardest things for any non-profit organization is getting off the ground, but in the space of about a year, the library has gone from an idea to a full-fledged project, with an official website, Facebook page and Twitter account.

"[The best part about this project is] seeing a non-profit go from nothing to something, right from the start.... It's great motivation



Come in and browse through the library's stacks. ••• Photo by Tristan Cleveland

for people who made it happen," Cleveland says.

The popularity of the project has attracted lots of media attention. "Now it's all about having to live up to that," says Cleveland.

In the long term, Cleveland hopes to expand the library, perhaps even into off-site workshops.

In the meantime, the main goal of the library is to keep providing a functional space. The organization's volunteers are key for this.

"[We] could always use more volunteers who know about tools and construction, because that's always valuable," says Cleveland. "With a background in commu-

nity development, [we] had a lot to learn about tools."

The library has been open since 2013, but will see its grand opening Oct. 4. Their collection contains over 450 tools, and is available to any registered member, whether they're a novice or experienced builder.

Until Oct. 4, they will be open only Saturdays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cleveland said he "couldn't be more excited to see the grand opening happening, and hope that people will come to see what we're doing." 📍

The funniest man on campus

Getting to know the Host of the Grad House's Comedy Night

Quinelle Boudreau
Arts Contributor

Every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Dan Hendricken, a Dalhousie student, hosts a student-run comedy night at the Grad House. The show features local stand-up comedians, as well as TV writers shooting in the area, and has seen writers from This Hour Has 22 Minutes.

Hailing from P.E.I., Hendricken is currently studying at Dal and intends to become a chiropractor if his comedic career doesn't pan out. Hendricken is also the doorman at Yuk Yuk's and occasionally does shows there as well. Although he used to get stage fright, he quickly got over it, because doing stand-up is just so fun.

"Even when it's bad, it's going to be over soon," Hendricken said. If a joke falls flat, he said, he typically ends up making fun of the joke. Hendricken both hosts and performs. He enjoys making the show like a big party where everyone is having fun – though he does not like loud drunk people who

interrupt the show. He feels that hosting and performing have helped his public speaking skills, as well as making him more confident.

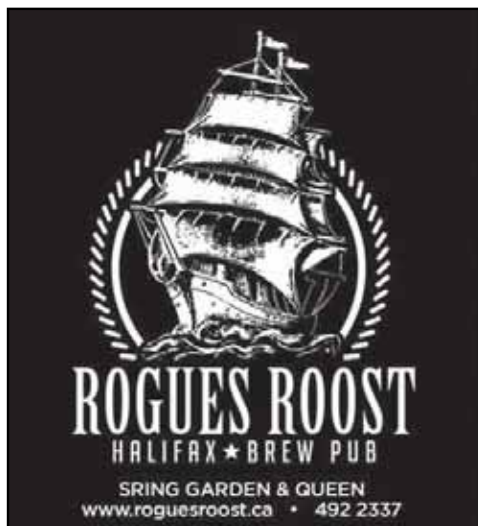
Many people believe stand-up comedians have experienced some sort of childhood trauma, but Dan's worst memory is from grade four when he ripped the butt of his pants. Unfortunately, he had decided to go commando that day.

"It's a good show, it's a good time, and it's at Dal," said Hendricken. "It'd been going well, but it's always good to have new people come."

Free cover, cheap drinks and Whiskey Trivia can all be found at the Grad House's Comedy Night. ☺



The Grad House, on LeMarchant, is a quaint, happening hub. ••• Photo by Jesse Ward



**"COME FOR THE FOOD,
STAY FOR THE AWARD
WINNING BEERS"**
HAPPY HOUR 4PM - 7PM DAILY

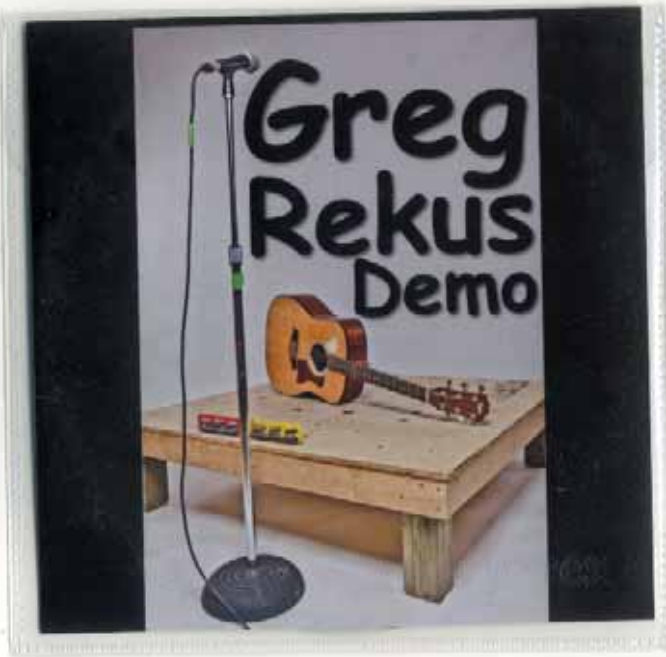
Reviews from the depths of the Arts Desk

The Gazette pans for gold through years of accumulated CDs

Alexandra Florent
Arts Contributor

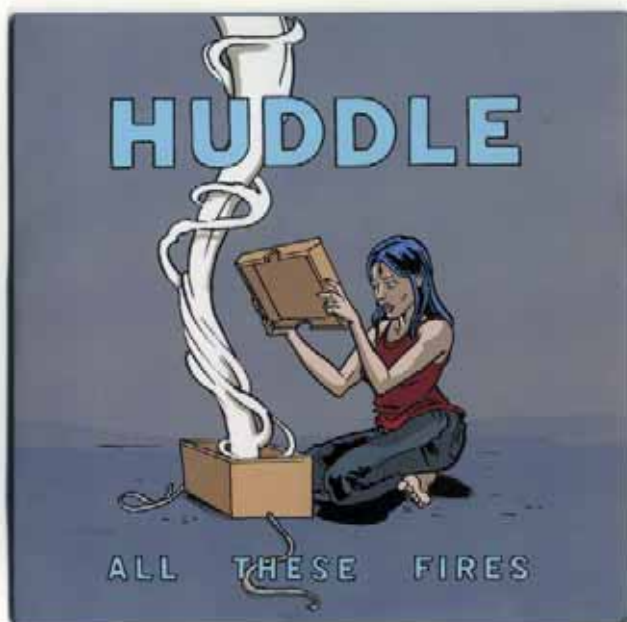
Greg Rekus - Greg Rekus Demo

An acoustic, alternative, folk and punk artist, Greg Rekus has gone from recording his music in his basement to performing across Canada and parts of the U.S.A. His music features the same repetitive beat and often felt cluttered with unnecessary sounds. The music was exhausting to listen to at first and the lyrics seemed half-finished and were difficult to interpret. The album had a few parts where you could really connect with the artist on an emotional level, and if you ever need to lose yourself in a song for a couple hours I would suggest listening to Friend of Mine.



All CDs reviewed here are available for listening at the Gazette office.

••• Photos found



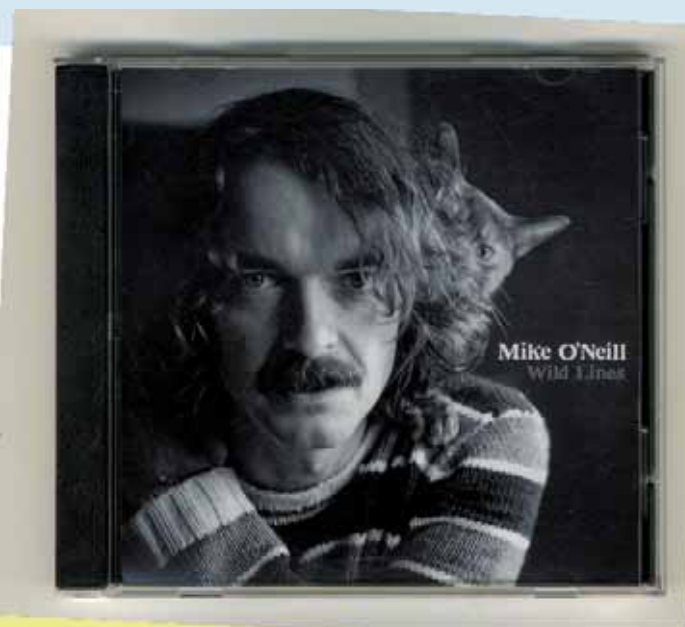
Huddle - All These Fires

Out of Toronto comes an indie pop band called Huddle with an unbelievably striking beat that goes from a buoyant to an incongruously moving sound in a matter of chords. The music is not only able to take you into a different world but manages to find a way to creep under your skin. The lyrics in the songs are somewhere between being soulful and humanizing. One of the lyrics in particular that stuck out was "Somebody is watching on me, is this real love, am I in real love, am I in real love." The quality of the performance was very intriguing.

Mike O'Neill - Wild Line

Mike O'Neill is an indie rock/pop artist hailing from Oshawa, and his 7th album has been out since 2012. Wild Line balances between thrilling and uncanny, but never smug. The music not only had a refined sound, but the melodies link together like impassioned life. Each verse gives a sense of familiar warmth and comfort, which gets you lost in the soft beat. The lyrics have a contagious beat that echoes through vivid and idiosyncratic sounds that capture your attention. The song Tidy Up is so simple, yet the lyrics and beat are so remarkably fresh and excit-

ing. In the opening line he begins to sing "I want to get a word to your young, I want to see if I can help them along". The album as a whole is straightforward but full of emotions that can transform you. If you listen closely, the harmonies tell a story that adds some unbelievable passion into each song. O'Neill is an amazing artist to listen to if you're up late studying and need to music to keep you awake and motivated.



With a hint of indie, Huddle transitions between each song from raw, reserved and often alluring to an absolute savaging piece that is breathtaking from one strum on the guitar. Huddle would be a great to listen to when you're hanging with your friends in your dorm room.

Changing our Little Blue Dot

Jenn Grant and David Suzuki took to the Rebecca Cohn to tackle Canada's environmental rights



The world's most recognizable environmentalist spoke at the Rebecca Cohn last weekend. ••• Photo supplied

Elizabeth Whitten
Arts Contributor

David Suzuki is on the road again. This time it's a cross-country trip to 20 Canadian cities to promote the Blue Dot Tour. Joining him along the way are local musicians and performers, such as Halifax-based Jenn Grant. The tour made a stop in Halifax at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium on Sept. 27.

The Blue Dot Tour hopes to

raise awareness over issues of breathable air, drinking water and healthy food. Over 110 countries have enshrined access to healthy environments as a right of their citizens by law. Canada is not one of these, but the Blue Dot Tour is hoping to change that. They are pushing for environmental rights to be protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Jenn Grant says that clean air,

healthy food, and clean water "are fundamental things everyone needs and I'm happy to be a part of that helping spread the word." The Blue Dot Tour is rallying citizens to support an amendment to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, something that has only happened twice since 1982.

To alter the Charter, seven out of 10 provinces must agree to the amendment. Of those

seven provinces, their population combined must be at least 50 per cent of the country. Grant credits the use of social media with promoting information about the Blue Dot Tour.

"I've been trying to spread the word through my social media campaigns and stuff and I've noticed that my friends have been sharing links and videos I've been posting," says Grant. "So I'll con-

tinue to do that after the tour." Social media is playing a large role in social movements like the Blue Dot Tour. To Grant, the Blue Dot Tour is about bringing an awareness to people in Canada.

"We really need to stand up for our rights as citizens of the country and the world," says Grant, "and to get the government to take notice about the environment." ☞



King's ransom

Budget crisis looms – alchemy is the answer

Nicholas Flamel
Satire Contributor

The University of King's College is in some serious financial trouble. Increasing costs and diminishing enrollment mean the school will face a \$1.1 million deficit this upcoming year, and experts project only worsening numbers unless administrators take immediate action.

Some suggest that King's should join the 21st century and start offering classes that are relevant to today's employment market – that modern students are more interested in dynamic entrepreneurs like Zuckerberg and Jobs than dusty old philosophers like Kierkegaard and Hobbes.

Balderdash.

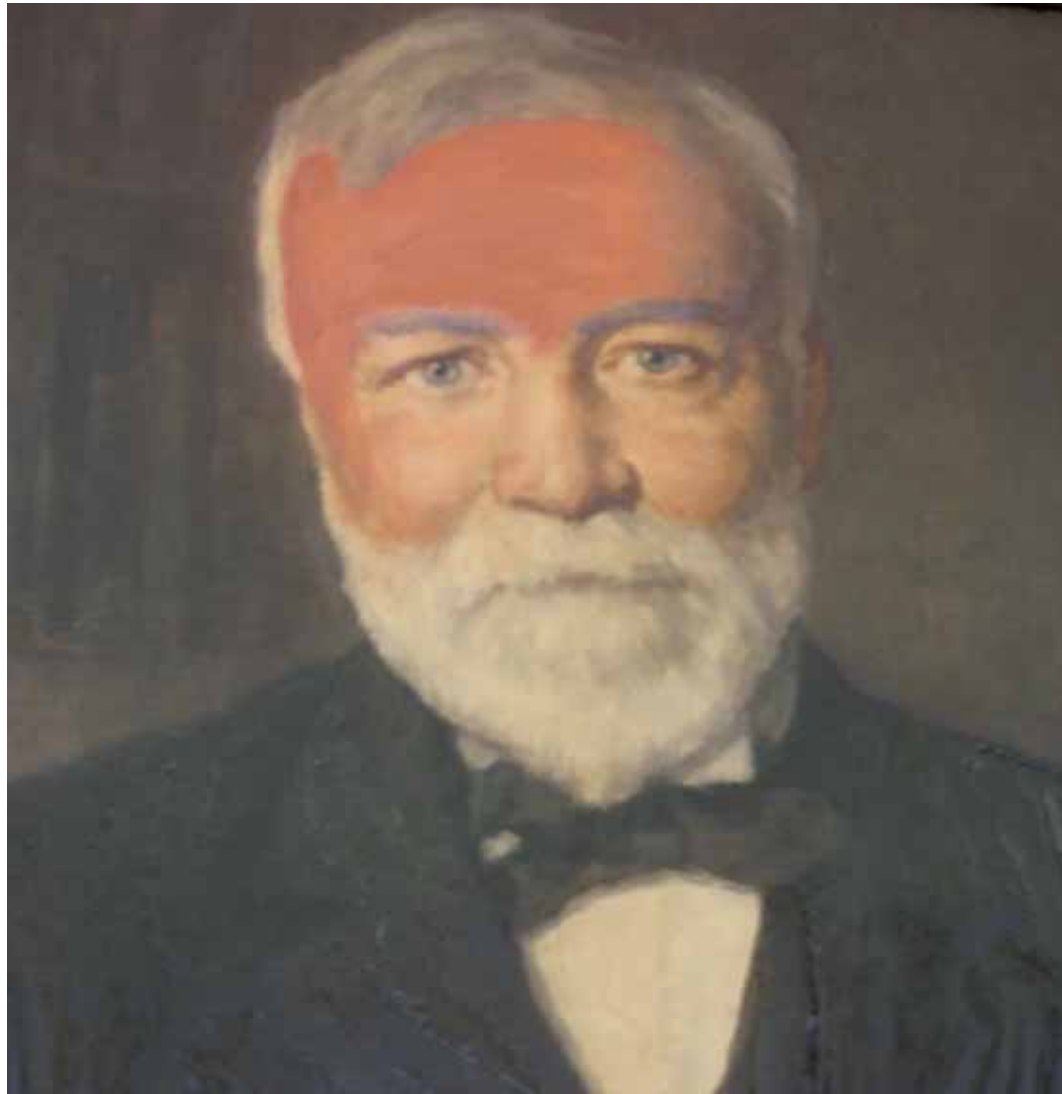
The answer to King's current troubles isn't going to come from selling out and abandoning a proud history of perpetual obsolescence. King's was founded as a haven for elitist intellectual dilettantes, and its very survival now depends on embracing this noble heritage.

King's has one very crucial advantage that more modernized, results-oriented universities lack. Whilst other universities were updating their offerings during the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, King's held firm against the tide of progress. As a result, they never axed the staff position upon which their fortunes now rest.

I refer, of course, to their professor of alchemical studies.

The rest of the world laughed when King's declined to jump on the "chemistry" bandwagon many moons ago, but we can now see the wisdom of that decision. Sure, a chemistry department might teach the kind of employable skills that attract paying students ... but alchemists can turn lead into gold.

At \$1,220 an ounce, alchemy professor Kyle Fraser would need to transmute about 30 kg per year



May the odds be ever in your favour. ••• Friends Historical Collection Guilford College / Flickr

to keep up with the current budget deficit. Only he could tell you if this is feasible, but really, transmutation is small change in the grand scheme of things.

The real money is in the Elixir of Life – immortality in a bottle.

Scoff all you want. Mainstream historians like to perpetuate the

myth that no alchemists ever successfully produced this elixir. Tell me though, if you unlocked the key to immortality, would you let the whole world know? Would you really want to spend the rest of your endless days being hunted down by megalomaniacal dictators with dreams of endless

empires?

Imagine an eternity constantly fleeing the personal armies of every Napoleon, Stalin, or Harper who coveted your secret knowledge. Clearly, you'd keep your discovery to yourself.

Take a few moments to reflect on King's history though, and it's

obvious that they've had the secret for years.

King's used to be in Windsor, NS until the campus burned down in 1920. Things looked bleak, until they found a surprising benefactor to pay for their impressive rebirth in Halifax.

The Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Andrew Carnegie was one of the w, most powerful industrialists in American history. Why would his corporation give up a fortune to help rebuild a tiny rural university a thousand miles away on the other side of an international border?

Charity? Goodwill? A desire to kindle the flame of public education?

Don't be naive. Open your history books and take a good, long look at Andrew Carnegie.

He was really awesome in those Hunger Games movies, wasn't he?

(Look, I'm not saying for a fact that Donald Sutherland is actually the immortal Andrew Carnegie, but it is more than a little suspicious that his first recorded appearance as a public figure just happened to be as a radio host here in Nova Scotia.)

King's received millions from the Carnegies in the 1920s. Imagine what the elixir would be worth now to the likes of Bill Gates or the Google gang.

As the insufferable literary snobs of King's are almost certainly aware, Jonathan Swift once wrote that "when a true genius appears in this world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him."

For years, the world has mocked your archaic ways. Hold steady and fear not. Your redemption is at hand. ☹

STREETEER

By Daniel Boltinsky and Jesse Ward

What would you do with \$2,354,874.94?*



"Pay for school and buy a lot of dogs, maybe four."

Devon Matthews

3rd-year International Development



"I have no idea."

Ted Slight

3rd-year Biology



"Take two million and donate the rest."

Ahmad Marwan Ahmad

Masters in the Clinician Scientist Graduate Program



"First, I would help King's get out of the predicament it's in. Secondly, I would found a society based on social justice and the scholarly pursuit of occult studies."

Ben Mitchell

Lecturer, History of Science and Technology



"Put it in the bank to get more."

Yue Zhang

4th-year Commerce



"I would probably move back home and open a sustainable school."

Alexandra Bonham

2nd-year Earth Science and Sustainability

Old Heart by Amber Solberg



*The amount of the DSU's forecasted 2014/15 budget.



Closing up to open up

Dalhousie Muslim Student Association advocate for women's-only swim classes

Yusraa Tadj
Sports Contributor

A women's-only swim class has been on the Dalhousie Muslim Student Association's agenda for a while. According to Zahraa Cherri, an active member of the MSA and a community assistant with Dalhousie Student Life, the MSA "did not have the means nor the capabilities to start up the program".

"Recently, the Dal/Kings Swimming Society contacted us [for a]

collaboration with their swimming sessions for females," says Cherri. The service, as Cherri points out, has been receiving interest from women, Muslim and non-Muslim, around campus. "It was a great opportunity and we were ecstatic to work with them."

"The Dal/King's Swimming Society was founded in 2012 to address a critical lack of affordable and accessible adult aquatic programming in the HRM," says Harrington Critchley, co-president of the society. "I have

seen time and time again when teaching adult swimming lessons, learning to swim can be an extremely empowering experience for people."

Critchley mentions there has been a heightened demand for women's swimming activities, including from international students, since the Halifax YMCA, the only pool that offered women's classes, closed in May.

While waiting for the Dal women's-only program, the Dal/King's Swimming Society offers wom-

en's-only evening Sunday classes from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre from Sept. 28 to Oct. 26. The society, however, still offers co-ed swimming classes, which are provided every Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will also work with Maritime Muslim Academy and Saint George's YouthNet to provide swimming classes for younger children.

Cherri mentions that blinds would be required to cover the Dalplex's windows during the

women's-only swim time. She says that at a price of \$1,000, this would be a costly investment.

She says they are exploring the possibility of a men's-only swimming session and depending on the popularity, will decide whether or not to go through with the plan.

When asked whether this would be an issue for people who support gender neutrality, Cherri says that although it "is a valid point" to consider, "I believe that having only female and only male swimming times is important, just as we have co-ed for anyone who doesn't want to put a label on their gender, or doesn't feel comfortable in a segregated swimming session." ☺



Photo by Amin Helal

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CONTRIBUTORS' MEETINGS
Mondays 6:30pm

For the love of the game: Tigers edition

Dal baseball team competes weekly despite little recognition

Jake Tallon

Sports Contributor

It's a cool and clear Tuesday evening at the Halifax Mainland Commons. The sun is beginning to set, as a few cars pull up to the baseball field adjacent to the Canada Games Centre.

With bags of equipment in hand, men pile out of their cars and make their way to the field. They remove the protective tarps from the pitcher's mound and the batter's box. They retrieve the bases from a storage shed. Others begin to rake and groom the infield.

But these men aren't the grounds crew. They're Dalhousie's baseball team.

The Tigers have been paying ball since 1992. In those 22 years, very little has changed – until now.

This season, the Tigers ball club joined the Canadian Collegiate Baseball Association, an organization promoting university baseball in the Maritimes and Ontario.

This is a step in the right direction, according to Jake Boyle, a fifth-year informatics student that acts as the teams coach and manager. He's in charge of logistics on and off the field. Also, he starts at first base.

"Some years we do well, some years we don't," he says.

The team's annual budget is \$1,500 and each player pays an additional \$150 out of their own pocket in team fees. This doesn't leave a lot of room for frivolous spending.

Dennis Trainor, a third-year nursing student, shows off his sun-bleached cap, saying "This hat is three years old." But at least his hat displays the team's logo, as few players actually have matching hats. Another player searches the dugout, shouting "What's a guy gotta do to get a jersey around here?"

The team carpools to games at the Commons and rent vans for road games; some of which are as far as four-and-a-half hours away.

But this is a home game, which leaves them even more chipper tonight.

The first pitch won't come for over an hour, but there's plenty to be done before the visiting St. Francis Xavier X-Men arrive.

The Tigers keep things light through a combination of batting practice and field maintenance. While the left-handers take their first swings of the night, the first year players paint baselines down first and third.

From freshmen to seniors, Dal's club consists of students in all areas of study. Past incarnations of the team have included students of medicine and law. Each player also represents a competitive club outside of Dal – some within the HRM and others from Ontario and New Brunswick.

With the field prepared, the Tigers continue to warm-up;

throwing, running, stretching and fielding grounders and fly balls. It's nearly a two-hour drive for St. FX and they're not expected until shortly before the eight o'clock start time.

By the time the game starts, the sun is fully set, the stadium lights have turned on and the weather has shifted from cool to cold. The Tigers try to keep loose as St. FX organize themselves in the visiting team's dugout minutes before the first pitch.

Dal sits a game above .500 tonight, although Boyle and the rest of the team like their chances of making the playoffs. Though, he also notes the potential difficulty orchestrating post-season travel and finance.

But right now it's game time, and Boyle says "We gotta do what we gotta do."

The Tigers come into the con-

test eager for a win after losing 13-3 to the University of New Brunswick. With St. FX sitting in last place, the team feels confident they can beat St. FX for a second time this month.

The start of the game comes with a noticeable shift in mood. It appears to be time to take care of business.

The Tigers take the field defensively to start the inning, however, the bench remains an active and integral component to the game. Not only do the players act as first and third base coaches, they also score the game in real time on the "GameChanger" app. Real time scores and stats keep tabs on every team and player in the CCBA and teams are responsible for recording these stats during the game.

Between innings catcher Devin Ferguson and starting pitcher Andrew Neima discuss the sub-

tleties of St. FX's offensive and defensive strategies.

The tension rises again when St. FX takes a four run lead. The Tigers find themselves in some unexpected trouble and look to rally. Left fielder Justin Armstrong knocks a double to right field, but is tagged out during the next at bat after a questionable call by the only outfield umpire. An unfortunate turn of events that the players vocalize to the officials.

In an attempt to shake things up, Armstrong is subbed out in a defensive adjustment in the fifth inning. Boyle jokes that Armstrong is "the only player who could hit a double and get benched."

Bailey Huber, a first-year engineering student, knocks on his bat superstitiously while on deck. He says, "It's a baseball thing," then adds, "Or maybe it's just a New Brunswick thing."

Despite the team's best efforts and regard for superstition, they fail to come back and lose the game 6-0.

The team gathers together after the game, clearly disappointed with the loss. Infielder Aaron Ferguson says, "We took that team lightly."

The sense of loss hangs in the cold night air, but the team still needs to clean up the field and get back to Dal, hopefully before midnight. It's business as usual for them, of course.

The players of Dal's Baseball Club work around a shoestring budget with virtually zero acknowledgment for their efforts. They make personal and financial sacrifice to play the game they love. The players are some of the best in the Maritimes and their passion for the game overshadows their need for recognition.


This all stands as a testament to the dedication and enthusiasm of the hidden gem that is the Dal Tigers baseball team. 



Photo by Jennifer Gosnell

Men's soccer with frustrating loses to Huskies, Capers

Tigers slumping, remain winless in past four matches

Ashwin Ramakrishnan
Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie Tigers suffered their second consecutive defeat after their 4-1 loss at the hands of the Cape Breton Capers on Sept. 27 on a gorgeous Saturday afternoon at Wickwire Field. The last time these teams faced each other, they each had to settle for a point, after a 2-2 draw.

The game started off slowly, but gathered pace when Tigers co-captain Mark Hagan was given a penalty in the box early in the match. Though the Tigers had the first scoring opportunity, it was Capers striker Ian Greedy who calmly converted the penalty to give the Capers a 1-0 lead in 18th minute.

Both teams had some great opportunities to score, especially the Capers who should have extended their lead off multiple chances, but Tigers first-year keeper Tristan Leopold made some nice saves to keep the score 1-0 in favor of the guests. In the dying minutes of first half, Cape Breton managed to extend their lead to two goals after a great run made by Kwabe Boateng with the ball from the wings. Boateng passed the ball to Greedy who put the ball in the back of net for his second.

The Tigers started the second half brightly and created many goal scoring chances, but Capers goalie Josh Lines was up to the task and made some remarkable saves.

Greedy had a great chance to give the away team a three-goal cushion, but narrowly missed, keeping their lead at two. Despite this, the Capers got their third goal through Liverpool-born Mark Stewart in the 76th minute. The Tigers were exposed on defense, which led them to concede the third of the day.

Defender Ryan Lewars gave the home supporters something to cheer about after he scored from the resulting corner in the 81st minute. The goal was a mere consolation for the Tigers with not enough time to stage a dramatic comeback.

The day belonged to Capers skipper Ian Greedy who scored



Photo by Alex Maxwell

his third goal of the game and fifth for the Capers. Greedy received a standing ovation from his teammates when he was substituted late in the game. He was named player of the game.

The match concluded a dismal home stand for the Tigers, after losing back-to-back matches. The losses put the Tigers in sixth position with eight points, while the Capers move up to third after another win against the St. FX X-Men. After a slow start, the Capers are now riding a three game winning streak.

The Tigers will visit Université de Moncton on Oct. 4 which will be a must win for both teams. They then travel to Fredericton to take on the UNB V-Reds who currently sit first in the AUS with a 6-0-1 record. ☹

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Scotiabank Women's Volleyball Invitational hits Dalplex

Tigers see first bit of preseason action under their own roof

Baeesa Lalani

Sports Contributor

The Dalhousie women's volleyball team kicked off their exhibition season last weekend at the Scotiabank Women's Volleyball Invitational at the Dalplex.

Their first two games proved a great success with two dominant wins over Acadia University and Université de Moncton. The Tigers beat Acadia in three straight sets (25-13, 25-12, 25-15) and the Aigles Bleus in three as well.

The Tigers struggled against Memorial on Saturday night, however, resulting in a three sets to one loss. They started each set slow but did not stop battling, which led to some very close sets (26-28, 23-25, 25-23, 14-25).

The Tigers made a great comeback from the previous day in their last match against their

town rivals, the Huskies. Down a set, they found ways to score against SMU and won the next three sets and the game.

Although the tournament did not have a definitive winner, Dal and Saint Mary's finished on top, both with three wins and a loss. Acadia and Memorial both finished with 2-2 records, while Moncton was unable to come up with a win.

Dal has a young team this year with only one fifth-year player. A transfer student from the University of Toronto, Alexandra Hudson, will provide experience and a strong middle presence for the Tigers.

The Tigers also have four rookies on the team this year. Emma Ciprick, Mieke DuMont, Anne Krywitsky and Gabby Sakowicz. Showing lots of talent this weekend, they look like they will be a driving force for the Tigers shot at



Photo by Alex Maxwell

a third consecutive banner.

Third-year libero Marisa Mota received tournament MVP.

The women's next big test is an interlock tournament in Montreal the weekend of Oct. 24-26 where they will play against Sherbrooke, McGill, Montreal and Laval. Their season starts the following week at UNB on Nov. 1.



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Women's soccer split week four matchups

Tigers defeat Huskies, lose to Capers at home

Graeme Benjamin
Sports Editor

After a convincing 3-0 win over the Saint Mary's Huskies on Sept. 24 at Wickwire Field, the Tigers were once again unable to score against the Cape Breton Capers, getting shutout 1-0 the following Saturday.

Jensen Hudder paved the path for success for the Tigers against Saint Mary's, tallying her first two goals of the year off feeds from both Patricia Murray and

Sam MacDonald. Hudder, who is just in her first year of eligibility with the Tigers, sits second on the Tigers for points with five, trailing behind fifth-year midfielder Michelle Yates with six.

Three minutes after Hudder's second goal in the 85th minute, Yates put away her third of the season, adding insult to the Huskies' injury.

Saint Mary's is proving to have a season to forget. They have yet to find a win this season, only tallying one point in a tie against

Mount Allison Sept. 14.

With the high of Wednesday's impressive win in their back pocket, the Tigers entered the Cape Breton game looking for redemption after getting dismantled 5-0 to the Capers the previous week. The Tigers got off to a strong start, with the first four shots of the game coming from Dal. The Capers got a few of their own, however, but both teams entered the half with no goals to show.

In the second half, the Tigers

took a penalty in the box that would prove costly, as Karolyn Blain converted on the penalty kick to score her AUS leading 10th goal of the season to put the Capers up 1-0. From there, Cape Breton keeper Tiffany O'Donnell remained composed, only having to make one save off a shot from Dal's Sam MacDonald to record her third win of the season.

The women slip to seventh in the standings with 10 points on the season. With more than half the season left to play, however,

there is still plenty of time for placements to shift.

The Tigers now have to shift their focus to their next road trip, where they prepare to take on two teams at opposing ends of the AUS standings. First, they take on the Moncton Aigles Bleus (0-6-1) on Oct. 4, followed by the undefeated UNB Varsity Reds (5-0-2) the next day. ☞



Photo by Alex Maxwell

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Tesla Motors and the push to separate from dealerships

Samer Bolous
Contributor
Industrial '15

If you have been following American news, in particular with regards to the automotive industry, you will be aware that Tesla Motors is working for a separation from the American car dealership system. Tesla is a US company that manufactures and sells electric cars. With the overall global culture slowly veering towards environmental sustainability, Tesla, armed with a clever and thus-far successful business strategy, will likely be a major player in the industry.

As part of Tesla's business model is to eventually be able to sell their cars directly to customers without having to go through a dealership. At present, this goal is greatly hindered by strict laws that prevent car sales outside of dealer-

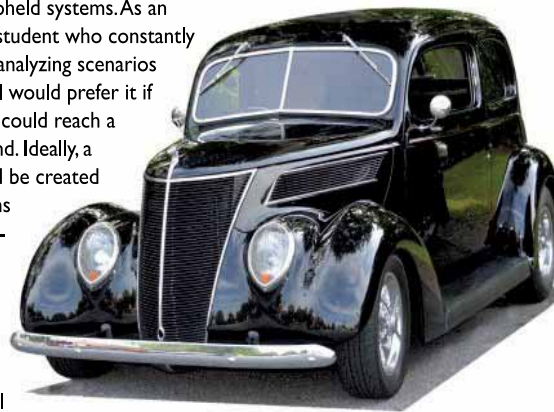
ships. Many consumers and critics of the industry agree that a separation from dealerships would be good for both the company and the customer. Their reasoning is that a customer who needs not approach a dealership will have a better customer experience, not having to negotiate with a salesman who prioritizes sales quotas over customers. For Tesla, this would mean not having a middleman disrupting their sales models with financing and negotiable options. These tactics ultimately benefit dealerships, but not manufacturers, and adds cost for the customer.

The opposition to Tesla, namely dealerships and some supporters in the American government, argue that Tesla's actions will harm careers or entirely eliminate jobs within respectable and honest dealerships. This is a valid argument, if a little blown out of proportion in the way it has been presented. Their concern is that Tesla will manage to

create an environment where other, larger, more popular car manufacturers can simply sell directly to the customer, bypassing dealerships, and toppling a system that has been in place for decades.

As young professionals, we will find ourselves caught in similar (albeit smaller-scaled) battles, where a force of change will conflict with stoic, long-upheld systems. As an engineering student who constantly finds myself analyzing scenarios such as this, I would prefer it if both parties could reach a middle ground. Ideally, a system could be created that maintains current practices, but allows for adaptation and change for an ever-shifting social culture and demand. Currently, only

North Carolina and New Hampshire have clearly sided with Tesla, while Texas, Virginia and New Jersey are against. The majority of other states have not yet joined the battlefield, as Tesla is working towards winning over a few states at a time. There is no word yet on their plans for Canada, but it is certainly highly anticipated.



A trendily-bulletpointed manifesto

Molly Elliott
Editor-in-Chief
Industrial '15

This year, the Sextant's executive has had a complete turnover. As I've lamented to anyone who will listen, it's been pretty hectic. After some floundering, panicking, and getting down to business (in more or less that order), the new executive

team has begun learning the ropes.

As editor-in-chief, I not only clean up after you grammarless heathens (just kidding (but seriously)), but also steer the Sextant in whatever direction I feel is appropriate. In the spirit of transparency, openness, and still needing to fill up a quarter of this page, I thought I'd disclose some of my early thoughts on the Sextant's new direction, in the ever-popular format of a list.

- The Sextant will mainly be a platform for Sexton students to explore their creative freedom. That means I won't be too picky about accepting articles for publishing, and will always do my best to help those looking to improve.
- Similarly, I don't want to be too concerned with being some super-trendy publication. The Sextant is here to serve YOU! We won't sell out, man.
- That said, we are a sciencey campus, so anyone, Sexton student or not, who submits sciencey pieces is more likely to be published.
- Lastly, and clearly the least obvious point, I don't want to take this thing too seriously. Life's short. Let's all have a good time.
- Oh, and just kidding about this "list" stuff. We won't turn into Buzzfeed or anything. Unless, like, you want us to.



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Also, look at the cool word formatting I did around the car over there! Seriously, I don't know how to use this design program yet, so that took a LOT of work.

The Sextant aims to represent all of the students studying and living on Sexton Campus. If you have any concerns about the paper, please email sextant@dal.ca

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