

vp community affairs

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John Boyd

1. What sets me apart from the other candidates is the fact that I am not particularly interested in the political aspects of the position. I'm not into the bureaucratic b.s. that is sometimes involved with student politics. I have been, and will continue to be, involved in community and volunteer service, regardless of whether I am elected or not.

I feel I offer a fresh perspective as a person, not a politician.

2. Perhaps student politicians are not taken as seriously as they should be. The Student Union deals with a lot of important issues and a lot of money.

I am of the opinion that many students do not really know what is going on with regards to student politics; the new V.P. Community Affairs is also responsible for Communications and I feel that if there is more information circulated by the V.P. Community

Affairs, the student body will see just how hard their politicians are working and maybe take them more seriously.

3. There seemed to be a lot of internal problems with employees and what not. I think that there was probably less time to focus on students, amidst the various scandals that have been going on this year.

4. My biggest priority will be a mentorship program for underprivileged children. I would like to have a troupe of volunteers to take kids to sporting events and various activities on campus. This would not only serve as a fun night out, but it would also promote the education experience and campus life, hopefully, giving them the incentive that they may not be getting elsewhere.

5. I would bring Dennis Rodman to Dal, because he proves that we don't have to conform to fit in.

Jeff McNeil

1. The one thing I can offer students that the other candidates cannot is a first-year perspective which results in a fresh approach to Dalhousie politics as well as a host of new ideas.

2. Student politicians aren't taken seriously because people view them as just that: student POLITICIANS. There is a general bias in society against politicians which unfortunately gets carried over onto student politics. The DSU however, has the potential to rise above such labels and make a name for itself on the provincial, national, and even international level. The method of going about that doesn't have to be traditional. The role of the student politician is to effect the goals of the union and that is best accomplished by continuously using new and innovative approaches.

3. Essentially there were two major problems with the DSU this year: the seemingly endless reoccurrence of stories about the misappropriation of funds and the lack of statesmanship on the smoking issue. Both of these problems gave the false impression of incompetence on the smoking issue. One of my ideas for next year would eliminate any question about the council's competency. A communication outreach program would see a mass dispersion of information about the DSU; its roles, objectives, mission statements, and new programs. Every medium available of advertisement would be used to ensure that John Q. student knows what's going on.

4. I have two major priorities for next year, the first of which is outlined above. Secondly, I would like to increase the charity fundraising

goal to \$60,000. I have a number of ideas to achieve that goal, one of which would see Dalhousie link up with other universities in a large scale fundraising event. Also, there should be a "sharing" of ideas between universities so that we can utilize other successful charity ideas at Dalhousie.

5. Jack Nicholson, because he's such a cool cat (tiger).

Steven Parsons

1. I can offer students the assurance that if there is something happening on campus, they will know about it. Through the use of a List Serv, I plan to use one person in each and every class on campus receive a weekly e-mail message so that they can, in turn, bring information about upcoming events back to their classes.

2. I think student politicians are taken seriously some of the time. I mean, students realize and appreciate (I think) that we are working on their behalf to make Dal a better place to be; however, I don't think that we can expect 100% participation in any of our events because some people are just here to

learn, and that's fine.

3. I think that the biggest problem in the DSU this year doesn't even reside within the DSU. This year, we have had the great fortune of a conscientious council that has decided to do some 'house cleaning.' As a result, they have taken a lot of crap. I'm not completely aware of the whole story (in the staff firings, etc...), but if somebody is doing something wrong, they better be held accountable. So I think the biggest problem is that certain portions of the student body feel that the union is on a power trip (for lack of a better term).

4. My biggest priority for next year will be the development of the List Serv for more effective communication. I will also be working on getting a Varsity Bus for Dal's away games, setting up a 'supremacy-like' challenge in which societies would compete to raise money for specified charities, and if possible, making the DSU course evaluation available over the World Wide Web and through the Info Line (which would be a toll free number over the summer).

5. I would like to bring the Simpsons to Dal... what do you mean they're not real?



vp academic / external

elections

Chris Lydon

Marcus Lopes

1. I am offering students a fresh approach to student politics — a grass roots approach. As VP Academic/External, I want to work with the students by talking and listening to them. And to work with students, you have to keep

in contact with them through the societies, by visiting the various departmental lounges, and just walking about campus and getting feedback on issues from students. This is the challenge, this is the change, and this sets me apart from the other candidates.

2. I don't believe that student politicians are taken seriously because their visible presence in the community is usually lacking. Without that visible presence, you cannot adequately represent students. Student politicians need to realize that there is more to student government than pushing through their goals their agenda. To be taken seriously, there needs to be a vision for the future; that everything we work for can be built upon in the future for the betterment of students. We need to consider the work that we do not in terms of how it's going to look on a résumé, but how we have effectively brought about positive change and put the students' interests above all else.

3. The biggest problem within the DSU this year has been the lack of communication between the DSU and students. It all comes back to not having a visible presence in the Dal community. Now we are at a time when we have to prove to students why the DSU is important and why students should get involved. Communication is the key and without it, there's no dialogue and the end result is a DSU that is out of touch with students.

4. If elected, I will not have one big priority. Everything will be a priority. We have to demonstrate, especially in terms of the VP Academic/External position, that we have more to deal with than Course Evaluation and CASA. These are important, yes, but it is equally important to ensure that the concerns of the students are represented, that we start discussing how our needs as Dal students can best be addressed. If there is one big priority, then it is to ensure that we are not only working for students, but working with them as well.

5. Four the Moment: These four women sing about CHANGE and human rights — it's a message that needs to be heard.

1. When endeavouring to make an educated vote, it is important to look at three main things. They would be the individual's experience, what proven initiative and track record they have, and what goals or results they hope to accomplish. Over the last few years at Dalhousie, I have developed a level of experience that is both rich and diverse. I am currently the Dalhousie Student Union Vice President Academic (being the senior DSU representative on the University Senate as well as supervising facilitator of the DSU Course Evaluation). Last year I served as the Senator for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and am currently the DSU rep. on the following Senate Committees : Academic Priorities and Budget, Academic Administration, Discipline, Physical Planning, Library Review, and Honourary Degrees. In terms of my initiative and track record, over the past year I've helped bring to completion several pro-student policies at the Senate level, such as the Standardized Principles on Undergraduate Grading Practices. I've overhauled the DSU Course Eval. by creating 25 Dal student jobs and doubling the amount of classes evaluated. I've been dealing with the External Consortium and rationalization issue within the university and successfully negotiated with the University for the extra day of winter break that we were all given. In terms of my goals...you're just going to have to wait until number four.

2. I believe that, generally, student politicians here at Dal are taken seriously. Though perhaps it is not widely known the level of influence and effectiveness that the DSU has, both within the University community and externally. In addition, a key focus should be to increase this level of awareness.

3. It's my opinion that this year was a great one for the DSU. This year, under the initiative of David, Lilli, Bret, and the rest of the executive, the DSU reached new heights of accountability. The members of this year's executive and council completed all of the goals that they were elected to accomplish and more.

4. I will have the DSU Course Evaluation sent to all Dalhousie students in the July registration packages. Should Dal students choose to remain, I will work towards the true reformation and financial accountability of CASA. I will ensure that result-oriented lobbying is a number one priority for CASA. And, I would develop a concise lobbying strategy for the University Senate.

5. I'd pick Tony the Tiger. Because...he's a Tiger...we'd get free Frosted Flakes (mmmmh... frosted flakes) and...he's grrrRREEAATT.

