

president &amp; vp executive

## elections



### Brad MacKay & Katherine Hannah

**1.** Brad and Katherine can offer students a unique combination of student government experience and student life experience. They have both served on residence council and participated in programs and activities dealing directly with the student experience here at Dalhousie. The personalities of Brad and Katherine compliment the positions they are running for. While Brad excels at bringing divergent ideas together and dealing effectively with administration, Katherine is excellent at mobilizing the student body. What sets these candidates apart from the others is their commitment to teamwork, the integrity of the DSU, and finding solutions.

**2.** No. And that's a problem. Before student politicians can be taken seriously, they must establish credibility with both the administration and the student body. Both Katherine and Brad have been successful in the past at recognizing the needs and concerns of students while at the same time establishing a working relationship with administration. This is the foundation for credibility. Brad and Katherine are committed to taking students seriously and will continue to make the DSU accountable to students.

**3.** The DSU has worked hard this year. They have made many positive adjustments in the way that the DSU operates. Unfortunately, these positive changes have not been adequately conveyed to the student body. This can be easily remedied by giving greater attention to informing students of the DSU's activities. Information campaigns, open forums, and student awareness education are just a few of their ideas.

**4.** Solutions. The biggest areas that can be improved are student lobbying, student services, and student unity. Brad and Katherine are committed to all three. It is important to have priorities and to choose goals. Brad and Katherine have chosen three goals that can be realistically achieved. They feel that these issues touch on the life of each student. That is why each one is a priority.

**5.** Farley Mowat; writer, actor, director, adventurer. Farley Mowat is an eloquent speaker with a unique perspective on being Canadian.



### Lee McKinnon Pederson & Dana Munroe

**1.** • We can bring a fresh perspective to politics, as we are not wrapped up in student government.

- Alternative views of political organization.
- No cheesy posters.

**2.** No, not particularly. DSU politics have lacked the enthusiasm and effectiveness of larger scale student organizations such as the CFS or SUNS.

**3.** • Inadequate communication of the issues and activities of the DSU to the student body.

• Disinterest on the part of the DSU to involve students in important decision making. For example, the mass firings of SUB staff, and changes in the smoking policy.

**4.** Downplaying the hierarchical structure of the DSU and concentrating on making student voices heard. We could raise the spirit of students by listening to their concerns and acting upon them. An inspired student body could demand change and effectively put an end to tuition hikes.

**5.** The Jim Rose Circus Sideshow. Because they are even more punk than us.



### Aaron Poirier & Mark Farrant

**1.** Our campaign makes no promises and sets no agenda. We are committed to a Student Union that functions by General Meeting of ALL students, where every Dal Student will have an opportunity to set Union mandate.

**2.** Student Politics is not taken seriously, therefore, the politicians themselves are often seen in the same light. We are proposing a shift from Student Politics to Student Unionism.

**3.** In talking with students over the past four years and from personal experience, there seems to have been some DSU issues where students have felt they should have been better informed and able to give feedback rather than having to guess at what has been going on behind closed doors.

**4.** If elected to VP Community Affairs, my biggest priority would be to bring Dalhousie Spirit to a new level through athletics, charity events, and campus activities, and making Dalhousie students aware of these opportunities by maintaining such vital communication links such as the DSU Web Site, Dal info line, and weekly Gazette coverage.

**5.** The Mini-pops, because they represent such a significant time in my life...

**3.** Other than General Elections, Students were denied an active role in the operation of their Union. The DSU has been content with Students playing a passive role in Student Affairs, likewise, the Union has marginalized the role Students have within their Union.

**4.** Our biggest priority is to give power back to the Students. Through a grass roots approach, Students will be better informed and prepared to work collectively for a quality and accessible education at Dalhousie.

**5.** We would bring the Dalai Lama to Dalhousie because he is committed to working for peace, political rights, and social harmony.



### Joe Tratnik & James Beddington

**1.** We can offer students our "honest" version of student politics. The province of Nova Scotia has a history of patronage, as does Dalhousie, and we propose that tradition be continued, but it should be more out in the open. And honestly, patronage is not a bad thing. We'd only hire those among our friends that we thought would do a good job. And, if they're our friends, they'll do what we tell them and won't screw up.

Plus, we'd create more jobs than any other candidates, and not just for our friends, but for a lot of other Dalhousie students.

Also, we as a team, have matching hair colour and we've probably done more drugs.

**2.** This open-ended question leads to an open-ended answer. It depends entirely on the student politician.

**3.** Although most of the members of the DSU Exec ran on an accessibility platform, for one reason or another, people are more disenfranchised than ever. Whether the actions of the DSU are justifiable or not, the end result has been the creation of the feeling of hostile territory in the SUB, and the loss of student interest in student issues.

**4.** Our first priority would be to open more campus pubs and bars (maybe even a micro-brewery with its own DSU brew), and to lower the price of booze on campus, so that we could compete with the downtown bars. If we managed to increase revenue through these ventures, we'd like to lower the DSU fees substantially, even set up a plan to eliminate them. As I mentioned above, we'd work really hard to create more student jobs on campus, and more better-paying jobs.

We'd also try really hard to bring in really big concert acts for really cheap prices for Dal students. Whatever bands students want from R.E.M. to the Smashing Pumpkins, to Hootie and the Blowfish, we'd try to book them.

We'd also like to see the DSU acquire some sort of camp or retreat for the use of all students and societies. This'd be great for Rez orientation and other such things, and if we rented it out, it might even make us some money.

Oh yeah, we'd also work on all that regular bullshit that most other candidates are spouting, like lowering tuition, greater accessibility and all that. But then again, who wouldn't?

**5.** We'd bring Ru Paul to campus so that she could bring us some style and give tips on make-up.



vp community affairs

### Carmen Barteaux

**1.** I can offer, not only the intense enthusiasm to organize and promote events, but the creativity and imagination needed to successfully complete these tasks. I also believe that my love for Dalhousie — as well as the hope that every Dal student gets an opportunity to not only attend Dalhousie, but to live with and for Dalhousie — will be evident in all aspects of my work as VP Community Affairs.

**2.** Yes, I do think student politicians are taken seriously, but by only a small percentage of Dalhousie Students who seem to show the interest in student politics. I think that only a "handful" of students have taken the interest and made the time and effort to "keep on top" of what the DSU has been doing and I think this attitude has made a gradual shift through recent happenings at the SUB.



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