

National

# Dalhousie SU Executive Review Committee under review

KAVIRI GUPTA, THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE  
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

The body which is responsible for reviewing the Dalhousie Student Union executive's performance, and which is late in getting its fall report out, is itself under review.

Alix Dostal, one of the Executive Review Committee members, resigned from the committee at the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) council meeting on Monday evening.

"I see two main problems: one, that the committee doesn't have a chair, and two, the lack of non-councillors on the committee," Dostal said. The tardy report is one of two that the committee is responsible for compiling. Each report is a review of the DSU executive members' performances over one of the two main terms.

There is potential for the reports to be biased and misused since so far the committee is made up of only council members; it is possible that some could use the report as an opportunity to settle personal

differences. Dostal feels that the committee needs non-councillors to provide readers of the report with the security of knowing that the document is unbiased.

"I felt I should resign since I know many of the executive on a personal level. It might be detrimental to the point of the review," said Dostal, an Arts Society representative.

Dostal put forth an amendment at Monday's meeting that two non-councillors be included on the committee. This was an amendment to one already put forth by DSU president Brad MacKay in which he wanted a chair to be included in the committee's structure.

"A review of the executive serves a good purpose, but certain structural impediments must be taken into account," MacKay said.

MacKay would also like to see the committee's report structure expanded to include suggestions from the committee on how to improve the executive's performance and increase their effectiveness.

The amendments put forth in Monday's council meeting were

carried and will be taken to the DSU Annual General Meeting to be held on February 4. There, they will be voted on by the student body, and if passed, will become integrated into the DSU constitution.

The Executive Review Committee started their work in November to make the fall review deadline of December 5, but were overwhelmed

with the amount of information that had to be reviewed.

"It is too much work for just three people to handle," committee member Jessica Michael said. The committee consists of Dostal, Michael and Bridgette McCaig.

"It's not anyone's fault that the report is late," said Chris Lydon, DSU vice-president Academic/External. "The idea for the committee was put

in the Constitution last year but no one put in any guidelines or structure on how the group should go about doing the review."

The fall report is expected to come out in a couple of weeks, which will make it two months overdue.

Dostal said that despite the lateness, the report will still be of use to students and to the executive.

"I think students will appreciate

knowing what's going on; and the executive do have time to make changes if the review indicates that changes should be made," she commented. The Gazette, in this issue, is publishing the survey questions by which the student body can comment on the performance of this year's executive.

is2.dal.ca/~gazette/

# Attempt to levy fee for Foot Patrol fails at Brock

MERV CAPPONI, THE BROCK PRESS  
BROCK UNIVERSITY

In the last BUSAC meeting before the Christmas break, Todd Kozlowski, Coordinator of the BUSU Foot Patrol presented a petition to council with 464 signatures.

The question on the petition asked students to support a referendum in which students would be asked to vote on a 35 cent per credit fee to be used solely by the Foot Patrol. The petition was passed on to council who after much debate turned down the request.

The debate that came as a result of the petition was one of the more emotional meetings of BUSAC this year. VP University Affairs, Ernie Schirru left the meeting in a rather abrupt fashion; a move he has since apologized to council for. Schirru

explained his actions by saying, "Brock has a reputation for being passive — not politically motivated."

Schirru further notes that it was not so much the topic of the petition he supported, but the principal of responding to the student body, especially given the apathetic reputation. Schirru's main stance was that if 464 students sign a petition asking for a referendum, their wish should be addressed. Schirru's views were shared by other councillors but they were ultimately defeated in a vote.

Those who opposed the referendum offered a number of different arguments. One such argument was that students are already being asked to contribute a large amount of money to numerous different ancillary fees.

With the cost of tuition increasing, any additional expense should only be

approved if it is deemed absolutely essential. Another argument against the referendum was that Kozlowski had no set plan for the allocation of money.

This is where the rift between councillors and the Foot Patrol is greatest. Foot Patrol has been consistently requesting additional funds to improve the current equipment. Kozlowski would like to get more radios so that all of his patrollers are equipped. He feels that in order to run a safe patrol he patrollers must be better equipped.

He also had hoped for winter jackets and a repeater that would boost the output of their current radios. Had the referendum been approved and students voted in favour, the foot patrol would have had an extra \$15,000 to allocate to these items.

Now that the referendum has been turned down, there is no chance for

the patrol to get the fee. Any fee increases have to be submitted to the registrar before the end of January so they can be included in the upcoming course calendar.

The Foot Patrol is now soliciting support from the university administration. The patrol hopes to obtain a grant large enough to fund a budget that is projected at over \$50,000.

If Kozlowski is able to receive the funding that he is looking to get, he has plans to expand the program. Part of the plan is to create 37 paid positions. The plan also includes a bike patrol that could escort students as far as Glendale. If the plan receives funding from the administration the patrol will take on new duties and could fall under the control of Campus Police.

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Rated R for some violence and gore involving animal attacks