Vice-President Academic/External



1. What experience makes you the best candidate?

2. What motivated you to run for election?

3. How would you improve upon the performance of your predecessor?

4. If you were elected right now, what would be the first thing you'd do?

5. How will you address the tuition concerns of students?

6. How do you see your role as a liaison between the students and the university administration?

7. Given that the DSU is a union, are you in favour of the protest approach to change, or the lobby approach? Why? Whitney Thiele - 21 Chemistry

1. I have the experience of cutting a lot of government red tape. I own a couple of small businesses which has allowed me to afford school and this business experience makes me the best candidate. I get the job done.

2. I've seen the rising tuition costs, I mean who hasn't? I feel that I could make a difference and represent the student body's interests. I feel I have the leadership necessary to make the changes necessary.

3. I would get the course evaluation out earlier and have its results readily available. Establish an Academic RA committee where students will be able to seek advice and help.

4. Work on course evaluation just so there is something tangible, early for students. Getting it out early would set a standard for other years.

5. By representing the students' concerns for once. By taking a leadership role, not backing down until there are some results.

6. I see myself as a strong, clear voice for students to the university administration. This liaison is crucial for expressing students' concerns and relaying back to students the administration's concerns.

7. I would be in favour of any approach required to get the job done. Lobbying is very important and makes up the bulk of most politics but sometimes more extreme measures are required.

Amié Moore - 20 years old 3rd year Advanced Major Economics

1. Currently president of Old Eddy House, sitting on the Shirreff Hall residence council, leisure space committee, two years on frosh squad and various leadership positions in high school. In 1994, effectively headed up a campaign against the Newfoundland government and teachers strike against examining students on material they had not been taught.

2. I feel I have experience and drive to do the job, as well as a fresh new perspective and ideas of how to go about the job, and improve the awareness of the academic programs and policies.

3. I would improve the openmindedness of how to go about the job and seeing students' perspectives on how they would like to see things done or any ideas that they may have. Also, open the lines of communication and understanding between students and administration.

4. The first thing I would like to dive into would be implementing the new Course Evaluation program and also kicking off the Education Builds A Nation campaign.

5. I would like to put out a type of questionnaire to see what the students have to say and then relate their collective views back to the administration, keeping the students informed about ALL matters pertaining to tuition.

6. My role as a liaison would be a very important one so as to see that each side is informed of the other's actions and views. Keeping the lines of communication open is important to see that both students and administration get all perspectives.

7. I believe that in certain situations either approach can be effective or used depending upon the circumstances at hand. Whichever approach is used for one situation may not be as efficient for the other.

Kevin Lacey - 21 History

1. I am currently a councillor with the DSU. I sit on the Academic/External Affairs committee as well as the Dal Arts society. More importantly this position is about lobbying government and university administration. Dal needs someone with experience in these areas. I have worked in both government and university administrations. I am familiar with how both systems work. Two weeks ago, I testified in front of a senate committee designed to examine problems in post-secondary education in university systems such as Dal.

2. For the past 30 years students have been lobbying for more money. This is important. However I believe that we need to focus on the quality of education as well as its costs. What's the point of getting an education if it's not worth anything.

3. The Academic/External Affairs committee should be more active. I see this committee as an excellent opportunity for students to participate in the public policy debate.

4. I would begin to organize a tour with all the Nova Scotia Members of Parliament and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations on a campaign of "Education Builds A Nation". The CASA campaign is designed to increase awareness about the need for a strong post-secondary system within the community. This tour will take Dalhousie's voice to the people who matter.

5. I will ask the provincial government to mandate that when tuition fees raise, universities must put a certain portion of new revenues into bursary programs. Secondly I would like to bring about "per-class tuition". This means that by paying for each class a person takes students will save money.

6. This, I believe, is very important, that is why I have proposed to increase the size of the Academic and External Affairs committee so that more students will have a say.

7. Lobby approach, simply because the other opinion has not achieved results. We need to be respected in government. I want the DSU to be part of government's solutions, not one of their problems.

Daniel Clark - 20 Psychology

1. I am the most experienced candidate for this position. For the last year I have been a Senate representative. I have five years market research experience which is ideal preparation for the Course Eval. I have sat on Senate Discipline and am well acquainted with the Student Advocacy Service. I am also a member of the Academic/External Planning committee.

2. I have really enjoyed my experience as a Senate rep. Everyday has been a challenge and has taught me both about the University and myself. I think I can take my experience and carry it forward as VP Academic/External.

3. I think there are two areas which need attention. One is the Course Eval. Chris Lydon has instituted a series of reforms, and I want to take that to the next step, by getting it out on time, and having an opt-in Paper version. The second is lobbying. Chris has not been proactive enough externally. I want to maintain a constant dialogue with the Education minister and make him consistently aware of our concerns.

4. Create the Dalhousie Lobbying Association. This would be a cooperative venture between the University, the Dalhousie Faculty Association, and myself. The idea is that it is easier for the Federal and Provincial government to ignore a single body. United we stand, divided we fall.

5. Tuition is a problem for every student. To date I have been a vocal advocate for tuition freezes within the Senate, but the real problem is government cutbacks. My lobbying strategy would address this.

6. This is the prime responsibility of my position. I have been doing this already as a Senator, and I think we have made real ground. The administration now takes us seriously, and I think we can grow on that. I have always been a beacon for student concerns; I will always have an open door to every student.

7. I think we need a little of both. Protest should always be a last resort, otherwise it becomes protest for protest's sake. But lobbying will only take you so far. You have to be prepared to protest, but it should never be your first response.



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For University Senate

The Voice