

Welcome to Dalhousie.

A new year means new beginnings for frosh, including new friends, a new school and new adventures here at Dal. For returning students, a new year may usher in the opportunity to start fresh. The opportunity to participate in societies and events, and a chance to take a bigger bite out of university life.

University is a huge step in everyone's life, one that is filled with anxiety's and apprehensions. You worry about academics, meeting new people and simply being in a completely new environment and stage in your life.

But there is a way to tackle these apprehensions.

By getting involved in the greater Dalhousie community, you challenge yourself, develop some of your interests, and meet people who give back to our university.

Too often, it seems, Dalhousie gets the reputation of being too big, too impersonal and generally too apathetic. Well if this school is apathetic, it is because many Dal students don't take the initiative to get involved.

In what you ask?

Well let me put it to you this way, if you can think of something you would like to do, there is a good chance someone has already created a society.

Dal has over 150 societies, everything from the Dalhousie Debating club to, get this, the Parachuting club. (A complete list of Dal societies can be picked up from the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) main office on the second floor of the SUB.)

If one of the many societies don't strike your fancy, try student politics. It is a sure way to learn about how the university is run and there is always a committee that needs representatives. If you don't have the time to commit to a council or board position, con-

sider volunteering. Volunteers are always needed to help run many of the activities planned by the DSU.

If you live on campus get involved with residence life and the wonderful community that exists there. Again, departments and faculties around campus give students a way to see their professors as more than talking heads, in events ranging from fundraisers to pub crawls.

From concerts to Grawood

EDITORIAL

nights, from lectures to sporting events there is more to Dalhousie than classrooms and exams.

You will see, hear, and learn many things (hopefully) in your years at Dalhousie. Yet remember to approach these experiences with an open mind.

In moderation, extracurricular activities can help broaden your social circle and focus your academic life. After all everyone needs an outlet from three hour labs, bone dry lectures and wandering around in a LSC induced haze.

So, I leave you with this. If you want to have a good time at university, you will. If you want to develop yourself, you will. If you want to succeed here, you will do that too. On the same note if you want to shut yourself in and only expand on academics you can do that too. Just remember, education goes way beyond the pages of a text.

As someone much wiser than I said, "Your education in university has nothing to do with books."

Something like that.

BRIANNE JOHNSTON

NEXT...



DEMOLITION PERMITS
FOR
HERITAGE PROPERTIES
NATURE TRAILS
HISTORIC SITES, ETC.
NO INSPECTIONS

ROACHE 99

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Volume 132, no. 1

editorial board

Editor-in-chief: Natalie MacLellan • Copy Editor: Greg McFarlane • News: Shelly Robinson • Arts: Avi Lambert and Karan Shetty • Sports: Patrick Blackie • Focus: Brianne Johnston • Science & Environment: Andrew Gillis • Photography: Pascal Languillon • National News: Mark Reynolds and Phil E. Lewis • Opinions: Vanessa Owen • Dalendar: Mufaro Chakabuda • Office Manager: Janet French • Online Manager: Karen Parker • Art Director: William Roberts

contributors

Sumant Kumar • Daisy Kidston • Mike Davenport • Andrew Simpson

99

Student Union Building, Dalhousie University, 6136 University Ave. rm 312, Halifax, NS, B3H 4J2.
editorial tel. 902 494-2507, facsimile 902 494-8890. e-mail. GAZETTE@is2.dal.ca

For advertising information, call 494-6532 or visit our ad manager, 9am to 5pm daily.

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor and commentary. All letters will be printed up to four per week. The printing of additional letters will be at the discretion of the Opinions Editor. Letters may be edited for length above 300 words and we reserve the right to edit commentary.

All submissions must be typed double-spaced on paper, e-mailed, or on a Mac or IBM 3 1/2 inch disk, in a WP version not greater than Word 6.0 or equivalent. The deadline is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the Gazette is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the Gazette is published every Thursday by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all students of Dalhousie University are members. The Gazette exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. All editorial decisions are made collectively by the staff. To become voting staff members, individuals must contribute to four issues. Views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff. Unless otherwise noted, all text © 1998 the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society. ISSN 0011-5819

THE GAZETTE

needs

writers &

photographers

Get involved!

Suite 312, SUB

494 2507

Meetings at 4:30

every Monday