

PRESIDENT □ VICE PRESIDENT □ PRESIDENT □

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1. This was my first year elected to senate and I was on three senate committees; Academic administration committee, discipline committee, and grade changes and assessment methods. Council committees I have been involved with are; grant committee, communication committee, recruitment committee, executive, security committee, and sub-committee of communication committee.

2. The main crisis is the Royal Commission on Post-Secondary Education and accessibility. Students have to be concerned about rising tuition costs and the government replacing the bursary system with more accessible loans. Students have to be worried about the cost of tuition and paying it back after they graduate. The other issue is the quality of education after you pay all this money. The three per cent cutbacks on all the faculties are a main concern because cuts have to be made somewhere and students are going to lose out on this.

3. I would not want to see the bursary system eliminated. I would strongly work with SUNS to ensure that the recommendation wasn't implemented. If it was I would warn students about the debt they could incur with more accessible loans and I would have to come up with some kind of a plan for appealing loans. Right now you can appeal a bursary but you cannot appeal a provincial loan. Again we would work with SUNS to implement some kind of plan where loans could be appealed.

4. The motto of SUNS is students working for students, and this year they have played a high profile role with lobbying the provincial government over the Royal Commission. SUNS is a very important organization. I cannot stress the importance enough of a lobbying group of that type.

5. CFS, the Canadian Federation of Students, has several plans involved with companies such as SWAP, Travel Cuts, and other students services of that type. CFS is a national lobbying group for

students and they have done a lot for employment by transferring more funds into the COSEP program for this year. (COSEP is the career orientation student employment program.) This is going to be a great benefit to students.

6. The new president, Howard Clark, wants to see more student senators. Personally I would like to see that. That way students would have more of a say in academic issues and if we had more representatives on the BOG they would have more of a say in academic issues and if we had more representatives on the BOG they would play a role there in financial issues. So I would like to see students have a greater, louder voice in these two areas.

7. I think right now the students have a pretty good idea about the Royal Commission, which is the main crisis in post-secondary education. And continuing to work with SUNS as we have been would be the best method. Marches are always a good idea, also debates with provincial leaders. That's what SUNS is there for — it is a lobbying group. Working with them would make the students more aware of the issues.

8. As president, the main student issues would be the quality of education, accessibility, housing, student aid and part-time loans and tuition. The quality of education is a big concern here with the cutbacks in the different departments. Cuts have to be made somewhere and the issue now is whether they will be vertical or horizontal cuts. Vertical cuts mean cutting out a whole faculty and horizontal cuts mean cutting out classes. Personally I would not like to see horizontal or vertical cuts but more of a combination of smaller departments. I was talking to Dean Betts on this issue and he agrees with me. A combination of smaller departments would be a better idea than any kind of cuts. We will be working with the deans to preserve this quality of education that we are paying so much for. The second issue is accessibility. With rising

tuition fees and the elimination of the Nova Scotia bursary program, accessibility is going to be a big issue and we will have to work closely again with SUNS and even on a national level with CFS to make sure that students in the province and across the nation all have accessible education. Where housing is concerned in the throne speech of the provincial government it was stated that five thousand low income housing units would be made in Halifax. Also there is going to be a women's residence built across from the Dalplex so this should help in aiding the housing problem. It is still going to be a major problem especially low income housing in this end of Halifax. The housing office this year has done a really good job, I would like to see it have a higher profile especially in September when there is definitely a housing crisis on campus. Student aid — right now students can't claim some of their part-time loan in the winter, so we would have to look into this and we have to lobby the government.

Now that the program is computerized, there shouldn't be the problem there has been in the past with student loans but students sometimes are not clear about how to fill out the loan applications and this creates delays in receiving loans. I think some kind of a pamphlet should be provided from the student aid office. There is one provided now but it is quite technical and you can easily miss details which will cost you the full loan which you are eligible for. Setting up information workshops would be another idea so that unexpected delays will not happen next year.

9. The university provides many valuable student services to the students, including the university health service, the Dalplex, the rink and the art gallery, services through the alumni office and also security. The problem with the university services is that funding is being cut back and as president I would have to keep a close eye on these cutbacks to make sure, especially for security, that funding does not fall short in providing an effective service.

1. This past year I acted as student senator and as a result of that position I sat on two senate committees. I also worked with council on the external affairs, entertainment and charity committees. In November I fortunately took over the position as campaign co-ordinator for the Students' Union of Nova Scotia. That position was very exciting because it gave me the experience of not only contacting universities and getting into the swing of communicating but I also gained experience in making the universities come together on issues that concern us all. I was also able to help lobby government and I was constantly in contact with the political community outside of Dalhousie.

2. Definitely, there are so many services. DSU is service-oriented because the university itself does not provide all students services students need. It is up to the student union to provide these services. Just in the building we have T.V. monitors scattered around that are not working. People have been talking about putting in electronic billboards. They have them in St. Mary's scattered in strategic positions which are very eye-catching. Of course, we would have to look at the financial end of it but these are the sorts of things we are going to be considering. We must also use the voice of Dalhousie's societies. After all, they are the base of the university community.

3. Actually entertainment has never taken a back burner on Dalhousie campus. What happened over the last year was unfortunate because the type of programmer they hired was not aware of the full responsibilities of the job and this reflected quite badly on the kind of events that were put on. Advertising was left until very late, and as a result people were left with a bad taste in their mouths. It is no fun going to a supersub when there are only 100 students attending. We will not be throwing entertainment together at the last minute next year. The new entertainment co-ordinator has got nearly every day planned for next year. I will be working very closely with the entertainment co-ordinator. We have to look at not only aiming our entertainment towards the eighteen year old age bracket. The average age of students on campus is 24. These are the people we must look at as well. By bringing all sorts of different lecturers in you will attract different people and they will not feel that

they are getting nothing from their student union fees. Examples of lecturers would be Margaret Atwood, or people who are involved in controversial issues. The university is supposed to be the centre for broad and open thinking and the way to encourage this is to bring these people in.

4. The DSU is not too service oriented, it is up to the student union to provide these services. It is kind of interesting to note that in 1980 the percentage of the university's expenditures for student services was 1.8 per cent as opposed to salaries which was 78 per cent. This is phenomenal, so the student union has to make up for what the university cannot provide.

5. The executive vice-president is involved in student services by acting as liaison between student union and the general manager. The vice-president must ensure these services are what the students want. This can be done by a number of different ways. More contact with people and holding surveys are good ways.

6. The vice-president is involved with approximately 90 societies on campus. In the past it seems that communication between the student union and societies was not up to par. There is room for a lot of improvement and this can be done by giving societies at the beginning of the year a nice big package of information on how to run an event or how to apply for a grant etc. I would like to see more co-sponsored events which will improve the profile of each society.

Societies bring diversified students together and this is very important for improving one's social awareness about other students. We benefit from having societies on campus because international student societies always have events which are quite enjoyable. This enables us to take part in their culture and learn as we are having fun.

7. I will be very involved because I was involved in it this year. I personally do not want to give up that kind of liaison with SUNS. The external affairs committee set up this year unfortunately lacked very severely in setting up policy for the student union. This year I would like to see more of an active voice in external policy. It is very important that the students set external policy.

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tuition increases because of this one agreement and exchange of letters between the administration president last year and the president of the student union. Indeed there is some protection offered but I think students have to be made very much aware that that is quite a changeable agreement. It can be reneged on by either side if the situation changes in funding for post-secondary education. That is but one example and I think the overall ramifications of differential fees for foreign students has to be

much more publicized. It's a tragic situation. I think it's very important that students understand that fifty per cent of instructional costs really means a massive increase in tuition. If the attitude that we are the primary beneficiaries of education is allowed to pervade then the increases are going to be even bigger and bigger as the government proceeds. The core curriculum has to be well examined because we can't pass it off. It may not effect third or fourth year students but we have to be responsible to the younger student coming up through the system.