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|  | **Dalhousie Medical Students’ Society**  **Meeting Minutes for November 28, 2017**  **6:30-8:30PM**  Halifax Location: Room 2L7, Tupper Building  Saint John Location: Room 105, DMNB Saint John |

Attendance: Jake Blacklaws (JB), Gordon Simms (GS) Fiona Warde (FW), Patrick Holland (PH), Sarah Tremaine (ST), Emma Bartlett (EB), Joel Bergman (JB), Caitlin Bennett (CB), Brianne Robinson (BR), Dominique de Waard (DW), Sarah Lane (SL), Alexandra Hetherington (AH), Farina Rafiq (FR), Kiana Mahboubi (KM), Nick Cochkanoff (NC), Kelcy McNally (KMc), Melissa Power (MP), Fiona Warde (FW), Rania Fashir (RF) Michael Mackley (MMk), Ola Kajetanowicz (OK), Ilana Walters (IW), Alysha Roberts (AR), Michelle Johnson (MJ), Yolanda Evong (YE), Chad LeClair (CL), Michael MacGillivary (MMg), Priya Koilpillai (PK), Tess Robart (TR), Kevin Russell (KR), Devin O’Brien (DO), Brynn Aucoin (BA), Michael MacMillan (MMm), Kathleena Sarty (KS) Jordan Thorne (JT), Robert Dunfield (RD).

1. Call to Order & Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by OK, seconded by CL, motion carried.

1. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve minutes by MMg, seconded by CL, motion carried.

1. Approval of Officers’ Reports

MMg: Potential freudian slip on Sarah’s part in her officer report. Apparently Pat needs all the help he can get.

JB: Good point brought up, who submits officer reports?

PH: Mike can probably speak to this better, is it advisory members as well?

MMg: Everybody that is on council (include voting and non-voting members) should submit a report. For example, the DNS rep should, so we can be up to date on what they have been up to over the past month.

FW: If you’re not sure where you fall, it is on the DMSS website.

JB: Going to have a whole lot of reports for the next meeting.

Motion to approve officer reports by PH, seconded by MMg, motion carried.

1. Financial Report

KMc: As of yesterday, adjusted bank balance (net of outstanding cheques and deposits): $43,283.98. Main expenses, the jersey order, made a net profit of $28. Expenses, MedBall, more expenses to come for that. Brianne is doing a good job staying on budget. Ticket sales ~$20,000. Awaiting check from DMAA for Interest Groups. One other note - Pat myself, Kat and Tess met with the Dean’s Office and SA, different people responsible for our funding. They have changed our reporting requirements, and we will now do 3 reports in a year (every few months). This will affect reimbursements. After the deadline has passed, we cannot reimburse students from months prior. I will send out an e-mail 2 weeks before the deadline (ex. Dec. 2 for Dec. 15th) to remind everyone to get receipts in. Keep in mind if you’re purchasing items, get receipts to me ASAP.

1. Question Period

FW: Pat, can you update us on the ask from Dean Anderson on student participation in outstanding accreditation work.

PH: Dean Anderson presented at the last meeting with an accreditation update, overall we passed with flying colours, but had more work to do on 9 outstanding issues that required monitoring. He asked for student representatives to be a part of that process. A few days later, myself, Tess, Dr. Hall and Dean Anderson had a meeting. He asked for 4 reps: 1 from each campus from both Med1 and Med2 within a couple of weeks to work on accreditation process. After brief consultation, Tess and I discussed that Med 1 Members-at-Large and the Med 2 Class president were selected for that.

FW: You and Tess who chose those individuals, can you explain what basis that was on?

PH: Dean Anderson asked for students in leadership positions who could reach out to classmates, conduct some focus groups, and surveys around those accreditation issues. After some consultation with other members of council, we decided to go ahead with the Med 1 Members-at-Large, Med 2 Class President, and Alex Pupek from DMNB. I know talking with you, Fiona, in the last few days, there were some issues around diversity addressed (especially with faculty members), and we should have consulted the Student Diversity and Inclusion Committee (SDIC) in the selection of these people. That was a mistake on our part not to consult with SDIC, and we will in the future. However, I am confident that these people selected will look at the issues through a diversity lens.

FW: I know we have spoken about this, the students selected were mainly elected members of council. Can you clarify what the DMNB Med2 was elected as?

TR: Alex Pupek not as a member of DMSS, here in DMNB he was interested in the role. He holds other positions here, and is the Skilled Clinician Rep for DMNB for Med2. I know that is not specific to accreditation. When looking at it over here, we wanted someone who is a good communicator between students and faculty. We hope that the selected reps will work with the SDIC to ensure that diversity is kept in mind.

FW: Thanks for clarifying Tess. Pat and I have talked about this this week, and what we were concerned about is that when this was brought to my attention, when Dean Anderson brought up diversity in faculty, I was concerned that SDIC was not contacted in relation to this portfolio and that the broader student population haven’t been consulted for this agenda. Though these people have been selected for leadership roles, that is for a specific set of tasks, and not specifically diversity. When brought to our council (SDIC), we were a bit disappointed with this lack of communication. The issue is how we move forward with this, as there was not consultation on this decision with the SDIC. I’m sure those selected will do a great job, but specific to our committee, we had some thoughts to put forward specifically about this diversity portfolio.

The issue is in order to get diverse voices to be heard, they need to have a seat at the table - not just consulted through focus groups. In order for this to be a success, we need to get them at the table.

Here on in, we ask for Med 1 and Med 2 call for statements from both campuses (through elections officers) followed by an election of students to work with the selected members on this agenda. I think there is a diversity lens that can be applied. Additionally, we’d like at least one member of the SDIC to get to sit at that too. So 5 extra people.

MMg: Thanks for that Fiona. I have a couple of questions. Understanding that diversity was a part of that, and more on the faculty level, I am unsure how much students will be involved in that, and it will likely be on the faculty level. Do you propose that all call outs from Dean Anderson to go to all students? Realistically I had ~25 asks in my year, it would be very cumbersome when looking at all these committees. We need to find a balance between fairness and the work load.

FW: Thanks Mike. Addressing the immediacy of this committee and it’s involvement, I need Pat to clarify what these students would be expected to do. My understanding is it’s still very valuable to have us there. It comes down to: if you can see it you can be it. For members of the class in minority groups, it is important to have their voice heard in how the Dean goes forward with diversity concerns at the staff level. In dealing with other issues Dean brought forward, I think there is a diversity lens that those should be looked through moving forward. Example: The mistreatment of students was another issue. Lots of ways mistreatment can happen. As recently as 10 days ago, we had an issue with racist comments made in tutorial by a tutor. Having diversity folks at the table will be of value. Going forward in the longer term, about how we address every ask, another conversation I’ve had is the potential of looking at our ToR on elections and appointments. Instituting a streamlined approach to how we address those asks in the future. Is it the case of every time we go to student body - probably not. I think this year the council is working on being transparent in how we operate, so putting together something formal around how these decisions are being made is going to be important. We should hold ourselves to higher standard on how we make these decisions moving forward. Important to look at broader levels of council, for example the constitution committee, for this.

Short game: What happened and how those people were appointed, acknowledging that isn’t how we should do it, how do we remedy this?

Long game: How do we hold ourselves accountable to a higher standard in the future?(in relation to how we go about choosing students from an ask) How do we do this to be as transparent and fair as possible?

KM: Hi, I’m Kiana, the other co-chair of the SDIC. I want to comment on whether we address every call and consult with SDIC; if the appointment has to do with diversity, then we should be consulted. With the diversity issue on faculty, it is important for current students of minority groups to see diverse faculty. All nice and dandy to talk about diversity and having diverse faculty, but it’s important to know what it means to see professor of minority group and be able to see yourself in that role in future. In terms of when to apply the diversity lens, we’d be a good resource to tell you whether or not to open to student body.

MMg: To follow up on the “see it, be it”: SDIC is made up of minority or non-minority student, would you want someone from that group, of minority specifically to be apart of the committee to address that concern and be able to speak to that issue?

FW: I think we can all agree diversity means a lot to a lot of people. Not just minority groups, but differences in approaches and ideas. I still think going to the broader student body would have been, and is, a good call. With the emphasis on, more broadly, if you’re not sure if there’s a diversity issue, come to the people who can help advise you - the SDIC.

MMg: Thanks.

PH: There are other questions to address now. I’m not exactly sure what our reps will be doing, Dean Anderson made a quick ask at the last meeting. There will be focus groups around some of these issues going forward. For our elected members who will still be working on this, which may change, or not, based on the results of this meeting, consultation with SDIC will be important going forward in working on these focus groups.

FW: Broader Question: how do we move forward from this meeting? We feel strongly about this on our committee. We have put forward that recommendation of the call for statements of interest with an election, and committee’s involvement with members who have already been chosen. Is it a case of the SDIC and DMSS exec members involved go and speak with the Dean about this? How will that look going forward.

PH: We talked about this this morning, at some point we need to go to Dean Anderson about this. It’s important to present a unified front, whether we discuss this evening, or put forward an official motion to approach the Dean to add 4-5 students to committee - which is double what he asked - or set up a motion? Or an e-mail to Dean to see what his opinion is? I’m open to suggestions to this process.

ST: Just an opinion, I think it’s important, before we do anything with this, to get more info from Dean on what this is, what it entails, time commitment, his expectations, etc. We have limited info on this. Maybe he doesn’t know what he needs, as he was just coming in on a whim. Before we more forward with anything, we need more info from him.

FW: I actually disagree, on basis that I think with what he has described, we have enough to know there need to be more diverse voices moving forward. What I want to see in Pat’s response, is there should be motion put forward for a call for statements, and election of those students. Pending a meeting with Dean Anderson with myself and my fellow co-chair of SDIC. I’d see that as a commitment from DMSS as moving forward with this in the right way.

RD: Rob here in Miramichi. I was wondering, are you more concerned about how the school handles issues of diversity, or about having the SDIC on the sub-committee Dean Anderson has asked for? If you're more concerned on how this issue is addressed and the SDIC involvement, I’m sure Dean Anderson would love to have meeting with your committee and get recommendations, which might speed things up - not needing to be apart of this broader committee.

FW: My concerns are wide ranging. In my committee role, I am here to represent views of all students. Not just about involvement in this specific issue, but how diversity issues are gone about by the DMSS and admin as a whole. Back to the short and long game. Short: how we address this particular ask from Dean Anderson and the committee he has asked to be put together. Long: With focus groups or surveys or what not, and the presentation of that data to the admin, it is important to give those diverse voices a seat at the table, they cannot just be a data point. Also how diversity is addressed by DMSS and university as a whole. Use the advisory members if you see a potential diversity issue, etc. - which goes for all advisory members.

RD: I just think you’re going to get more done Fiona if you pick whether you’re more worried about the democracy of it all, or the diversity of it all. It sounds like they’re a bit mixed, two separate issues. I commend you for being concerned with diversity in the accreditation study, [focusing on that] might make things move faster, as opposed to the other issue.

FW: Appreciate your comments on the issue, but I disagree. One of those issues me and my committee are willing to take on in its multiple facets.

MMg: Curious about representation and having representation at the table. Is it your group’s philosophy that everything in the school should be run through the committee? Or is it possible to have Pat or someone else can bring forward your concerns to other committees (like the education committee, wellness committee, etc.), is it the vision to channel it all through the SDIC? I am concerned about the direction this is going. I’m confident there are people who can bring these points forward so we don’t have a bloated group of students going forward to represent the students as a whole.

FW: This was not meant to be sounding like an SDIC takeover. Not where we’re coming from. Our concern is moreso in that, with issues related to diversity we want to be consulted, because that is why we’re here. We have trust in executive members in their roles they are elected for. That being said, we’re here to help, to consult, and we feel we haven’t been consulted in this particular case. In relation to the specific ask by the Dean, there is a better way to go about getting diverse voices here. Ultimately that is what he asked for to successfully achieve and address the accreditation points.

KM: We have an issue with diversity in this school. Voices are not heard. Do we want to take that extra step, the extra time, which I know will add to the efforts and time that Pat or other members would have to invest. That is okay. That needs to happen, something isn’t right and we’re here to remedy that.

FW: We want to help, be apart of the remedy.

PH: Just as a question for SDIC co-chairs or anyone else. Would it be reasonable compromise, listening to Rob’s suggestion? To add a rep to the accreditation committee from SDIC. Then to also set up a meeting to discuss with Dean Anderson some of the issues he has brought about accreditation?

FW: My answer would be I don’t think that would be sufficient to address the issue at hand. We really do need to go to the broader student body in this case. Having an SDIC member there was the other part of the ask. In the short term of having SDIC executive go with yourself and other members apart of discussions with Dean Anderson as to why we see this as necessary (which is good in short term), in the long term, we (SDIC) feel that having elected members that can represent the classes, elected on the basis of this being a diversity issue, would be the best possible decision moving forward.

BR: Kinda out of context, this is just more of a general comment. I feel like Fiona is addressing an important point more broadly, that if we just pick within our circle (which may be easy), that does exclude people from the student body that could bring a good voice to address these specific asks. Something for the DMSS to think about when presented with specific asks moving forward.

PK: Hi, Priya, from Med4. I think a lot of important points are being brought up. If you have specific members from SDIC on the committee, it means that people who aren’t on there who do come from diverse backgrounds, are not elected specifically from SDIC. People do recognize that their classmates have diverse backgrounds. Do we really know the people selected, are we sure that they’re not addressing diversity issues and bringing them forward? Might just be speaking for myself, but I think they do. I think it’s undermining people on this executive that we do not think about diversity, and we do.

FW: I would never want it to come across that we don’t have faith in other members of DMSS or elected to class leadership positions. Our concerns that those individuals elected, or putting themselves forward, have done so for a certain job description, but not specifically for diversity. Its a case of, we’d like the ability for people who perhaps have not had an interest in student government, or not feel comfortable to go to their class president would have another voice for them put forward. Also like to reiterate that to those already selected, this is not a comment on your abilities.

CL: Not a lot of the SDIC come to DMSS meetings. This is too broad. We can talk about a motion, but can’t just sit here and debate the validity of people’s diversity.

FW: We could put in a motion. Is there a way I need to phrase that Jake?

JB: Be it resolved that, the SDIC… etc. If you want to take some time to come up with that, you can. We’re going to table that and come back to it.

JB: Any more questions.

MMg: With the issues of diversity on upper campus, can we get a quick synopsis on what they are doing? If that won’t cause you too much trauma, Chad? What are they doing with this current issue, are they addressing it?

CL: They are blowing it up to a degree never before seen. Are you asking about diversity in general?

MMg: The issue with a particular student. Upper campus admin has not done a whole lot to engage that student. Going forward is there anything for DSU to rally around more students.

CL: Difficult question to answer. Lot of misinformation. One of the DSU executives put forward a motion to boycott Canada Day for the whole student union. Weird motion because by the time we discussed properly, Canada Day had already passed. Initially was voted for. Turned out it was brought up improperly, lot of negative press around that. On basis of aboriginal rights, colonialism. Strongly worded motion. A discussion on Facebook that went back and forth, lot of nasty things in different directions, mostly directed at the main person who brought up the motion. She then responded with “F\*\*\* you all” and a rant, including #whitefragilitycankissmyass #whitetearsarentsacred. People thought this was inappropriate for a student ladder, others did not. School went to her, wanted to talk to her about it, not the purpose of statement, just the way she addressed the student body, not professional. Offered to have her go to a one day class on communication skills. She said no, so they said, in light of that, this will go to a senate hearing. Not necessarily bad, they will discuss, maybe something bad will happen (disciplinary action). She had a lawyer, PR people, national news coverage. They (Dal) said okay, we won’t bring you in front of senate. Lot of things that were said, not totally accurate. more said on that, more coverage recently. School was never really going to do anything. She claimed they were going to punish her, but they did not say they were going to.

1. Old Business
   1. Financial Policies ToR (Pat H and Kelcy M)

PH: For anyone here at last month’s meeting. We presented a new ToR surrounding financial policies to give more guidance and accountability and transparency in financial practices. Suggestions from last meeting, incorporated those into ToR (no members reimbursed for an amount >$1000 in one week, other changes made, etc.)Any questions or comments to add? If you think about anything else, we can add it later.

I (PH) move that we accept the financial policy ToR as presented. MMg seconds that motion. Motion approved.

1. New Business
   1. Discussion of charity options for Euphoria Charity (Michael Mg & Brianne)

BR: Presenting an update on Euphoria Charity selection for Euphoria next March. Did call for nomination from student body. Late Oct. - Early Nov. 13 packages were returned (HOPES did not return a package, as they did not feel in a position to use the donation at this time). Circulated to voting members. Collecting votes between today and Thursday. The final decision will be made on Friday. Charities listed:

Avalon Sexual Assault Centre

Breaking the Silence

Brigadoon

Bryony House

Camp Gencheff

HOPE Worldwide Canada (Walk in Our Shoes)

L’Arche

MOSH

PJ Project

SeaStar

We are Young

Youth Project

Just for voting members. Did include in e-mail some info on past charities that DMSS supported in past Euphoria events, and FTHOI (which Faculty of Medicine does fundraise for). Example Camp Triumph was the Euphoria charity two years ago. Some overlap with FTHOI. Donation went to Avalon Sexual Health Centre this year, year before that it went to MOSH. Something to keep in mind when going through the packages. If you’re wondering why we don’t circulate this to student body at large, the package contains confidential info (financial) from charities - try not to circulate to many people.

IW: Why does the financial info need to be circulated?

BR: We ask the charity to explain in the package what they would do with the funds, gives an idea of where the money would go, how they’d use the donation.

IW: I would rather have more people vote on the charity than have them know all the details.

BR: We will share some with the student body, they announce what they spend the money on at Euphoria. Just some of the more intimate details they share do not seem appropriate to share with whole student body.

IW: Meant instead of sharing that, that could stay with you, but just a vote on the charity and knowing what the charity does. There are so many students involved in Euphoria, I know they would like to have a say in it.

* 1. Interest Group Database (Kelcy M)

KMc: This is short - we were approached by a student at McGill Med to see if we were interested to adding our Interest Group (IG) list to their database for all of Canada. I wanted to bring it forward before we go ahead to gauge any concerns with us going ahead with it. Any issues or concerns?

PH: Basically I think it’s harmless to share our info about IG’s with the schools, it furthers other schools and us if we participate. If any heads of IG’s don’t want their info shared they can reach out to us.

AH: All that info is on our public website, so…

JB: Any other questions? Concerns?

* 1. CFMS SGM Sponsorship (Pat H)

PH: Yeah let’s come back to that later.

<revisited later on in meeting>

PH: We received a request from CFMS president and Dal Student Henry Annan. He is asking us for financial support for CFMS-SGM (Spring General Meeting)

Levels of sponsorship are on here. Discussions with Dean’s office on how to jointly fund this. Discussion around what level we want to sponsor. Good thing to do, good showcase of our school, and DMSS. I know this is the same weekend at CoAMS conference, we will try to make both things a success. Any input on levels of sponsorship?

SL: I feel like I need insight into how much money we have to play around with. Would be great to be able to sponsor a decent amount.

PH: Fair point, don’t want to throw Kelcy under the bus.

KMc: I think financially there are still some question marks I am trying to work through. I am worried if we do $5,000 and above, I’m not sure we will be able to afford that with all these question marks I am trying to work through. If it was up to me, the safe amount would be the bronze/silver options. We are starting to receive some funding from last year. That is really good. At this point, I have a few big question marks on things. Financially I think that’d be ideal. Is that enough info? If we don’t have to decide at this meeting..

PH: Don’t need a specific number, if people are strongly opposed I can talk to Henry.

MMg: For some historical context: We put money into bid for CFMS-AGM for Halifax, Fall 2016 (unfortunately, weren’t successful in bid). Dean’s Office said they’d give $7500, DMSS offered $5000. Office of President gave 5,000, College Physicians and Surgeons NB gave $1,000, Dal Med Alumni Association gave $1,000. We may have been a but more flushed with cash then.

PH: Anyone feel strongly opposed? Given our financial situation, we do have some resources available.

TR: I think from the NB perspective, yes there is an overlap between this and CoAMS, it would be a nice gesture for DMSS to support this, there’s a different population of students who will want to go to that (to present, learn about CFMS politics, etc.), I think it’s something to consider.

PH: I know you and Sam have been there from NB campus. SGM is held in conjunction with CCME (Canadian Conference on Medical Education), and some students might want to present some research as well.

RD: Goes without saying, the fact that Henry is the President, and we’re hosting in Halifax. Symbolic to show that this school is supporting. Even if it’s a lower amount, it’s important to have the DMSS name out there.

TR: Also given that DMSS has given to CoAMS, also important that we support CFMS and all they do for our students.

GS: Is there a strategy to cost share with the Dean’s Office. Strategy of how much money each party donated.

PH: Very preliminary, but definitely a cost share. Administration usually provides some funding for students to travel, where it is in Halifax, those costs won’t be as much this year. We can put forward some money, and they can too.

GS: Back to Mike’s point about how DMSS did 50% of the Dean’s amount. Could be a good starting point. $3300, and we do $1600, around the bronze level?

PH: Before committing to any specific level, we will take this into consideration.

SL: Going off that point, maybe don’t commit to 50% depending on how much they give? It could be too much given what Kelcy said.

* 1. Discussion Item: Edit to Terms of Reference for Awards (Tess R)
  2. Med 2 'Outstanding Intramural Participation Awards' (1 Male and 1 Female from each campus, NS and NB) (Tess R)

TR: Point D and E are kind of together. Quick point. Talking about MedBall awards. In updated ToR there might be an edit that needs to be made. Last year DMSS added 2 awards of outstanding intramural participation awards for NB. Okay if we need to wait to another meeting to approve this. Just a discussion point to see if we need to edit.

OK: Already in ToR for DMSS society members roles and responsibilities, it is reflected there. In DMSS ToR on Awards, just need to add it to it’s own section. Do we need to have a motion?

TR: That is what I was assuming. Do we need to?

MMg: Thought I included it last year. Apparently did not. Just need to advise the motion in Meeting A, and vote in Meeting B. If you want to advise now, and approve next meeting. If you want to approve before MedBall for this week, you can do that too if you want to include it, that’s okay too.

TR: We can advise today.

Meg: Do you want me to put that forward?

“Whereas the documents, DMSS ToR Awards and ToR Positions (or whatever that one is called), are not congruent, be it resolved that we make the Awards document congruent with the aforementioned Position document.”

JB: Vote on next week? Great.

* 1. Motion – Dal Med/Law funding (Melissa P)

MP: Motion about Med-Law event in February.

Whereas the DMSS is collaborating with the Law Students’ Society to organize an educational event for students and Whereas the costs for the event will be split evenly between the DMSS and Law Students’ Society Be it resolved that the DMSS will contribute a maximum of $200 to the organization of this event.

Motion to approve, PH, MMg seconds. Motion carried.

* 1. Active and Advisory Council Member consultations (Fiona W.)

FW: Motion is coming, that was a lot from me tonight. Reiterate the comment that SDIC is here to help. We want to help with anyone in any way shape or form. Also though, use all other advisory members that are here to help with DMSS (technology, etc.) that is what we’re here for. Going forward, keep that in mind.

JB: Come back to motion?

<revisited later in meeting>

Revisited Motion:

WHEREAS the Student Diversity and Inclusion Committee (SDIC) functions to:

a. To provide a forum for stakeholders to discuss issues of diversity and inclusiveness within the context of Dalhousie Medical School.

b. To serve as a liaison between other organizations that are dedicated to the interests of diverse individuals within the Faculty of Medicine.

c. To strengthen the connection between underrepresented populations within the medical school.

d. To increase awareness for issues of diversity and inclusiveness among decision-making bodies within the Faculty of Medicine.

e. To promote a more diverse and inclusive community within Dalhousie Medical School.

And

WHEREAS The committee work shall be guided by the Faculty of Medicine Social Accountability Statement, which defines the elements and dimensions of diversity as age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation/identity/expression, ability-disability, income, health literacy, religion/spirituality, geographical location and language, and

WHEREAS the DMSS recognizes that the ‘ask’ by Dean Andersen does include diversity issues, and

WHEREAS the DMSS recognizes that the selection process of the student representatives to fulfill this ‘ask’ did not involve all relevant stakeholders (e.g. broader student body and the SDIC executive), and

WHEREAS the SDIC Liaison to the DMSS, in conversation with her executive to find a solution to this issue, has put forward the recommendations that:

1. Additional members be added to the group of students working on this portfolio by election based on a call for statements of interest in both Halifax and Saint John in both Med I and Med II, and

2. A member of the SDIC executive also be included the group of students working on this portfolio.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DMSS will commit to organizing a meeting with Dean Andersen that includes the SDIC co-chairs to advocate for these inclusions, and to

organizing the election of the additional student representation as outlined above in point 1 within the next two months.

FW: Remember, this is not supposed to be in an effort to undermine the voices of the current members who have been selected to be a part of this process. It is in an effort to maximize the diversity of student voices on these committees. I am also open to any amendments to this motion.

MMg: How many additional members?

FW: 4 additional members, and one SDIC member.

AR: Do those 4 have to come from SDIC?

FW: No, the additional members will be added based on election. Need to actually change the wording of that. Two from Med1, Two from Med2

AR: Does point 2 mean an additional member from SDIC.

CL: So I’m going to make a suggestion. Before it goes to vote. Because I’m totally in favour of point #2, maybe I’m alone on this, not so in favour of point #1. Suggest putting a motion forward with just point #2 voted on. I think it’ll pass. Then if you want to put forward motion of point #1, it might be more contentious. Then you get your SDIC member on the committee. Then discuss election for 4 more people. I will argue against point #1, not against point #2.

KM: Can you expand on why?

CL: Election for 4 people who are interested in this is not going to get more than people who are already interested. I understand they are supposed to liaise with the class and sit on the committee. I did it last year, on wellness committee, on other academic committees. Don’t think we need to go to a special election every time we have to select a committee member. If we separate point #1 from point #2, I think it’d be stronger. I think the member of SDIC is voted to have that view and look at from that angle, and I think that executive would be selected specifically for the committee. So I might think why does the SDIC member sit on it, when everyone else is elected. If it’s two different motions, it’s easier to have people vote.

KM: I think there is a bit of a misunderstanding as to why we want this to be open to class. Not so that we are looking for diverse individuals, just want equal opportunities. In SJ campus, a classmate of ours, who knew about this, expressed interest in this. We didn’t get that oppourtunity on this campus. If you were interested and got elected, not at all to do with whether I look at you and think of diversity. It is a big part of our organization.

CL: Thank you. That clarifies it more. Does not clarify that every single time this situation comes up, we go about the same process. Don’t think it is appropriate or efficient, when it is the job of some council members to sit on those committees. I am just saying I would vote yes on point #2 and no on point #1, easier to break it up. We probably disagree on that.

KM: Appreciate comments, see your point. Why we feel passionate is that a lot of our classmates do feel the same way, feel left out. Find out about things after the fact, want to be included. Majority of these students are minority students.

CL: That is the discussion we’d have if we were talking about that motion.

SL: I do support point #1 and #2. Only suggestion, is from practicality, is the two additional members? 4 additional members seems like a lot. 1 from each campus seems like a lot on this committee.

FW: My concern is about equity and equality for our SJ members.

SL: Sorry, I did the math wrong, was thinking 2 from each class.

PH: This is calling for an election, run by the returning officer from each class. Different than an appointment, which we’ve done in past. Open call for applications, applications reviewed by the executive and students are chosen by executive members.

FW: Thank you for comments.

MMg: Saying election brought up something for me. Who is making up criteria for who is elected in this committee? For example, President of DMSS, there are your duties. Have qualities or attributes that person must have a report back to a student body. Who is making those, how does that go through this committee?

FW: My immediate thought once we clarify with the Dean is how those roles would be classified, that is what we’d send out to students interested.

DDW: Just more clarification on the 4 people that ended up being chosen, if that happens. Say 10 people from SJ and 10 people from Halifax who apply. How does this get selected?

PH: Election, not appointment.

FR: Just wondering, instead of 4 additional members. Is there no reason why we cannot have a re-election for the 4 seats to begin with?

FW: I had thought of that, in terms us of going into this discussion to address this issue. I think more voices at the table to start is a good thing. People selected have been chosen by their peers for a reason. I don’t see any reason to back track. Going forward, adding more voices is the solution I think is most fair. I know there have already been conversations that have happened, and work put in. That is why it was not a part of our request.

FR: Having too many members, people are not okay with that. If there was a re-election, wouldn't that mean they’d get the people they need without increasing the numbers?

NC: Being one of the people on it now, we’re not that deep into it, and that cannot be undone. I don't think replacing us can’t be undone, unless things secretly have happened that I don’t know about?

PK: On principle, are we going to do this for every committee that we as a group have been selected for? We all sit on other committees, how do we decide what committees we are already on, ones we get selected on? It opens a can of worms. Important point on DMSS members on committee, I am at this meeting and sit on other committees, and we can discuss at the DMSS meeting, feed that information to other people on other committees. Do you end up getting fragmented communication, with people on other committees not knowing what happens on DMSS level.

FW: Comes back to long game I mentioned earlier. Looking at ToR in regard to elections and appointments going forward, some push back for potential of election of these members might become precedent setting for future asks. I hear that concern. While I don’t share that feeling, I hear what you’re saying.

YD: Was this brought to Dean Anderson about having 5 extra people? In last meeting he said he’d have 4 people, I have a hard time voting in favour of the first one, as I don’t know if that’d be overwhelming or if he’d want 5 extra people.

FW: Thanks - I was also at that meeting. Would feel inclined to ask Dean Anderson and respect that request for a small number of students to serve on that. I do feel in this case that there was an oversight of involvement of key stakeholders. I would say it makes for more of a discussion with Dean Anderson to explore how he feels about that. Goes back to why we are going back to this, to give him means to effect positive change. I think we can agree is the common goal.

CL: I can’t fully remember all of the issues involved w/ accreditation. I remember diversity was one of several. I think it’s important that the 4 people from the DMSS are there, we aren’t talking about one issue, lots of things. It seems a little overwhelming to me to have 5 new people added to an committee of 4 for one issue amongst a lot of issues. Could be fine with Dean Anderson, but if not, do we have a hierarchy? If he says we can’t have 9 in the room, not effective for a small group meeting, I am okay with adding say 2, what 2 would be added?

FW: Thank you everyone for your input. I think based on everyone’s feedback, the route people take would be with an edit to the current motion in regards to perhaps tabling the first point that is made for future discussion based on feedback received, maybe we can structure this more clearly. In meantime, have meeting with Dean Anderson to clarify what his goals are with that committee. If everyone can give me some time with Jake to edit that, we can come back to it.

<revisited later in meeting>

FW: Changed now- highlight that the second point - the ask that members of DMSS be included in group of students. Like to explore the potential with him of more members on this committee. Like to bring that back to DMSS for further discussion at our next meeting to present results of that meeting. Engage in further results of that meeting. Thank you all for your deliberations and feedback on this.

MMg: I’m just wondering if we can change the 4 elected representatives. I think that if he comes back and says 2, then this doesn’t hold. If we put “additional” and then see where we go with the meeting with the Dean. At next meeting can probe further.

FW: I think the reason we worded it that way is from our point of view, the 4 people is what we’d like the most. Going from that, to explore after conversations with the Dean where we can go from there. If based on the results of convo with the Dean, we can revisit this with another motion at the next meeting.

CL: Does this mean the SDIC exec. aren’t on the committee.

FW: We will be.

CL: It says “Additional student rep including 4 elected reps”

FW: Good catch.

CL: I’m just not sure we can approve that an extra person gets added before we ask Dean Anderson.

OK: It’s the potential though.

CL: The spirit I’m not trying to argue, just want to make sure it makes sense.

PH: I think officially it’d have to be an ask. Getting someone form SDIC (1 person), that would just be an ask and approval from Dean. Ask for that and four more people might be a more detailed discussion.

CL: Friendly amendment to make that more clear.

AH: Currently under the wording, advocating for addition of both co-chairs. That is two people and not the one that we are thinking.

FW: Correct. Thank you for catching that. I would like to keep it here that the members be SDIC Co-Chairs, both myself and Kiana be included for now.

PH: In the meeting or on the sub-committee.

FW: In the meeting. Both of us at meeting, one involved on committee.

CL: Maybe put before the 4 elected, and 1 SDIC co-chair.

FW: Sorry SJ you can’t follow along. I will be sending this to you.

TR: Wanted to confirm, mentioned this before. I know last year Kathleen here was one of the SDIC reps. I know we don’t have a specific SDIC member here in NB.

FW: I am just going to politely throw Jake under the bus, because he didn’t distribute the officer’s report. We do have Sophia Miao in NB.

TR: Would she be one of those representatives, or 2 students who are elected?

FW: Two students elected, but her position on SDIC does not preclude her.

DDW: Question for you Fiona. Based on convo with Tess there. Going forward with 4 students, would you not want to exclude DMSS members and your committee from the election, as your goal is to broaden the representation?

FW: Thought on my feet that it wouldn’t preclude her from applying based on her SDIC position. Using Sophia as an example, her peers would be electing her for a specific position based on what the position entails. Great point for if we explore the election issue further.

JB: Open it up to any further discussion and questions. Any feedback or changes to the motion before we put it to a vote?

Motion we put forward. Everyone comfortable with wording.

Motion:

“WHEREAS the Student Diversity and Inclusion Committee (SDIC) functions to:

1. To provide a forum for stakeholders to discuss issues of diversity and inclusiveness within the context of Dalhousie Medical School.
2. To serve as a liaison between other organizations that are dedicated to the interests of diverse individuals within the Faculty of Medicine.
3. To strengthen the connection between underrepresented populations within the medical school.
4. To increase awareness for issues of diversity and inclusiveness among decision-making bodies within the Faculty of Medicine.
5. To promote a more diverse and inclusive community within Dalhousie Medical School.

And

WHEREAS

The committee work shall be guided by the Faculty of Medicine Social Accountability Statement, which defines the elements and dimensions of diversity as *age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation/identity/expression, ability-disability, income, health literacy, religion/spirituality, geographical location and language.*

And

WHEREAS the DMSS recognizes that the ‘ask’ by Dean Andersen does include diversity issues, and

WHEREAS the DMSS recognizes that the selection process of the student representatives to fulfill this ‘ask’ did not involve all relevant stakeholders (e.g. broader student body and the SDIC executive),

and

WHEREAS the SDIC Liaison to the DMSS, in conversation with her executive to find a solution to this issue, has put forward the recommendations that an SDIC co-chair also be included in the group of students working on the outstanding accreditation issues.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DMSS will approve the inclusion of the SDIC co-chairs in a meeting with Dean Andersen to introduce the SDIC co-chairs, clarify the goal of student involvement in these accreditation processes, and explore the potential for:

1. That a co-chair of the SDIC be added to the existing group of students working with the administration on these issues.  
   AND
2. Additional student representative involvement going forward in the form of four (4) elected representatives from MedI and MedII - two (2) from each class, with one from each campus – as per further discussion with the DMSS executive.”

Motion to vote by FW, seconded by NC.

MMg - Remember that some people only have half a vote (ex. Humanities, Sports and Wellness each get half).

<vote repeated with clarified voting priviledges>

JB: All people with half vote put up one finger only.

In favour: 10

Opposed: 8

Abstain: 2

Motion approved.

FW: Follow-up statement. Thank you to everyone who voted. For those who either voted against, or abstained. I’d be very open to feedback, or why you felt that way. Future motions, or things pertaining to this specific issue. Please do not hesitate to reach out to myself, or other members of this executive. We definitely want to hear those points so we can ensure that all voices are heard. Thank you.

JB: Most involved I’ve been in a meeting. Big learning moment.

1. Announcements
   1. World AIDS day - please encourage people to wear red (Sarah Lane)

SL: Hi! Dec. 1st is World Aids Day. I have made a few fb posts. Sorry if upper years did not see these. Nice thing to support world aids day if everyone could wear red. Dec. 1st is great oppourtunity SJ is down for MedBall. Med 2’s end at 10:30, Med 1’s start at 10:30, really quick photo, in and out. Would be great to have a couple 100 in the photo. We’ll try to bring extra red shirts, but PLEASE bring red.

* 1. Learning Environment Questionnaire (Melissa P)

MP: I will be sending e-mail tomorrow to all the classes about a survey. So, back in 2010 there was an overhaul of the curriculum, and DMNB was created. They did an evaluation of learning environment between the two campuses. Are going to be doing a repeat of this study, how technology in classrooms impact the medical learning environment today. Simple questionnaire, 10 mins to fill out, would be super awesome if everyone filled it out. Option for follow-up focus group if interested, option to select that. Valuable in evaluating our medical education. I will e-mail tomorrow, and e-mail with lots of reminders.

* 1. Dean's Holiday/Accreditation Extravaganza Tuesday December 5th (Pat H)

PH: Dean Anderson is super excited. Holiday/Accreditation Extravaganza on Tuesday, Dec. 5th, LSRI at lunch time (12pm-1:30pm), entertainment, food and drinks - the Dean is pumped. Stop in for a few drinks, have lots of fun.

d. Portal registration

PH: Communicated with each of class presidents. AFMC portal will increase the registration fee from $150 to $200, if you think you at all want to do an away elective in 4th year, save yourself $50 and sign up by Dec. 11th.

MMg: If you want to take $200, go to nearest window and throw it out the window that would be more helpful.

PK: In 4th year doesn't make a difference.

JB: You’ve enjoyed the process?

MMg: Buckle up.

AH: Jake can you spell extravaganza.

JB: E-X-T-R-A-V-A-G-A-N-Z-A.

JB: Pat has a fun announcement, everyone sit down.

PH: Very very quick. Upcoming events next week, MedBall on Friday. Sunday, deadline for Med1 clothing order, organized by Med1’s. Additional clothing order, Sam and Chad have designed hockey jersey’s. If anyone wants one.

AH: On Sat. morning from 9am-11am, all available can you show up and clean post-med ball!

SL: Spots still available on the spreadsheet.

PH: One final announcement, put out a call today on larger Medicine Facebook page. Anyone planning on attending the the Fear Memorial conference tomorrow or Saturday.

MJ: I plan on going tomorrow.

PH: I’ll chat with you. They need volunteers, come find me after if you want to help.

JB: Toy Drive happening here, presents wrapped Dec. 7th around 4pm. I believe my 5 mo. old son is coming to be wrapped in various papers, photos taken, unwrapped. Will be lots of fun. I will do the wrapping, if someone holds him.

JB: BACK to the updates to the motion (see above under the new business)

JB: Next meeting after Christmas, we won’t see everyone until then. Early January, we’ll let you know. Great meeting. Very insightful.

1. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by PH, seconded by GS, motion carried.