



DALHOUSIE ASSOCIATION
OF
GRADUATE STUDENTS
CONSTITUTION

Adopted: September 29, 2011

Amended: October 4, 2012; September 2016

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 1) The organization shall be known as the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students, hereinafter referred to as DAGS.
- 2) The mandate of DAGS is to:
 - a) DAGS shall represent the collective interests and promote the general welfare of the graduate students of Dalhousie University.
 - b) DAGS shall promote and assist in maintaining an academic and social environment free from prejudice, rape culture, discrimination, exploitation, or abuse on the basis of, but not limited to, sex, gender identity, race, ethnicity, language, religion, sexual orientation, age, nationality, socio-economic status, political affiliation or belief, disability, or marital status.
 - c) DAGS shall promote and maintain communication between the graduate students, the Dalhousie Students Union, and Dalhousie University administration, and represent graduate students within the DSU and the University.
 - d) DAGS shall administer graduate students' affairs within the limits prescribed by this constitution and the bylaws of DAGS.
 - e) DAGS shall aid individual graduate students with specific problems related to the university community.
 - f) DAGS shall act to stimulate social, intellectual, and political contact among graduate students.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

- 1) Membership of DAGS shall consist of full and part-time graduate students of Dalhousie University and other participating graduate students, as prescribed in the Bylaws.
- 2) There shall be General Meetings of the Membership at least once per fiscal year;
- 3) Membership is not limited by age, gender, race, nor religion.

ARTICLE III – COUNCIL

- 1) There shall be a Council that will exist as the governing body of THE ASSOCIATION, determining policy, regulations and other such matters relevant to THE ASSOCIATION.
- 2) The Council shall be composed of Council Members, all of who must be Members of THE ASSOCIATION at such time of their election and during their term in office:
 - a) President;
 - b) Vice-President (Academic Affairs);
 - c) Vice President (External Relations)
 - d) Vice-President (Finance and Operations);
 - e) Vice-President (Student Life and Communications);
 - f) Two representatives from each of the following faculties; one enrolled in a master's program, and one enrolled in a doctorate program:
 - i) Architecture and Planning
 - ii) Arts and Social Science
 - iii) Computer Science

- iv) Engineering
 - v) Health Professions
 - vi) Journalism
 - vii) Law
 - viii) Management
 - ix) Medicine
 - x) Science
- g) One representative from each of the following community:
- i) Indigenous Students;
 - ii) Black Students;
 - iii) International Students;
 - iv) LGBTQ2SIA+ Students;
 - v) Racialized Students;
 - vi) Students with Disabilities;
 - vii) Student Parents;
 - viii) Women Students;
- 3) In the event that the DSU Graduate Student Representative is not on the the Association's Council, then they shall be an ex-officio Council Member.

ARTICLE V – FINANCIAL

- 1) DAGS shall abide by an annual budget first approved by Council, and then approved at an Annual General Meeting.
- 2) Signing Authorities of the association shall be:
 - a) President
 - b) Vice-President (Academic Affairs)
 - c) Vice-President (Finance and Operations)
 - d) Any other person designated by Council.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS

- 1) Annual Elections shall be held to elect the President and all Vice-Presidents.
- 2) Elections shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of the Association.

ARTICLE VII – IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

- 1) Council Members may be impeached and removed from office following the Bylaws of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- 1) Any DAGS member may propose a constitutional amendment at a General Meeting of DAGS.
- 2) Amendments to this Constitution shall be approved by either of the following procedures:
 - a) Simple majority support of DAGS Members at a General Meeting of DAGS;
 - b) Majority support in a Referendum of DAGS Members.

ARTICLE IX – DOCUMENT SUPREMACY

- 1) DAGS shall be governed by the documents, listed below in order of primacy:

- a) The Nova Scotia Societies Act;
 - b) The DAGS Constitution;
 - c) The DAGS Bylaws;
 - d) The DAGS Policies and Regulations;
 - e) Roberts Rules of Order.
- 2) In the case of ambiguity, final interpretation of the aforementioned documents lies strictly with Council.
- 3) The activities of DAGS must not infringe upon federal, provincial, municipal laws, or regulations within Dalhousie University, nor the Bylaws and Policies of the Dalhousie Students Union.