



**DAGS**  
Dalhousie Association  
of Graduate Students

## 2020 Election Nomination Form

**DEADLINE – April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 – 5:00pm**

Electronic submissions accepted. Send to [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca)

### Instructions:

Please fill out the following questionnaire and email in digital copy to [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca) by April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 at 5:00pm. DAGS will be posting your answers for students to get an idea of your campaign platform.

Please either direct or forward a minimum of two graduate student [DAGS members] emails to support you nomination (@dal.ca email required). These must have the senders' name, B00#, and articulate their support.

*An email attestation can only count as a signature from the student's Dalhousie email address.*

### Important Dates:

- Nomination forms due to DAGS Office or emailed to [president@dags.ca](mailto:president@dags.ca) – April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 at 5:00pm
- Campaigning – April 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 – April 10<sup>th</sup> 2020
- Voting – April 13<sup>th</sup> 2020 – April 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 9:00pm
- Results – April 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 9:00am

### Questions or Concerns?

Contact the DAGS President – [president@dags.ca](mailto:president@dags.ca)

**Name:** Asal Yans

**Program:** Medical Neuroscience

**Year of Study:** Third year

### QUESTIONS:

**Please introduce yourself (100 words):**

I'm a Ph.D. student at Dalhousie University. I arrived in Halifax in 2016 and Because of my desire to continue research I asked to work as a volunteer in the Department of Medical Neuroscience one month after arriving. Shortly after starting my volunteer work, my supervisor hired me full time as a research technician. In September 2017 I was admitted to Dalhousie University to pursue my education in a higher level. I've been

involved in various volunteer works Such as being DAGS VP External, DAGS representative, participating ALS walk strong event for 3 years, work for Halifax Brain awareness week.

**Please identify your top five (5) platform points:**

- 1- DAG-University relation: One of the key parts that helps DAGS to pursue its goals is the relationship between DAGS and university administration. My goal is to improve this relationship and work tightly with the university administration, especially the faculty of graduate studies in order to provide better services for graduate students.
- 2- DAG\_DSU relation: DSU is an umbrella society of DAGS, and the relationship of the DAGS with DSU is other key parts that help DAGS to operate. During the past years, this relationship has been improved, but still, there is a large capacity to develop this relationship and provide some services incorporating with DSU for graduate students.
- 3- DAGS-CFS relation: DAGS and CFS are working tightly together from the time that DAGS joined CFS, and this should be continued and improved in order to reach our goals. There are many goals and campaigns that DAGS and CFS are working on, such as tuition fees, free education and fight for fees, mental health, etc. These goals and campaigns will not achieve unless with the correspondence of DAGS and CFS.
- 4- Mental health: Supporting mental health and wellness of Graduate Students is another priority since most of the graduate students deal with anxieties and stresses. Incorporating with the university health and wellness center and DSU to provide a good service for graduate students is one of my main goals.
- 5- Inclusivity: I believe the gathering of people with all different points of view, beliefs and races initiates creativity in every single matter. All graduate students have a right to pursue their education in an environment with equity and inclusion. Therefore, connecting with all university resources to utilize all possible services and supports for all graduate students equally is another goal to achieve.

**What are your qualifications and/or experience that relates to the position you're running for?**

I involved in the Medical Neuroscience graduate Students Society (MNGSS) from the time I joined Dalhousie University. I was DAGS representative of the Faculty of Medicine Graduate Student Society (FMGSS) and Medical Neuroscience Graduate Student Society (MNGSS) from March 2018- March 2019. This experience made me ready to join DAGS team in 2019, So I took the role of DAGS Vice President External in 2019-2020. I involved in various committees and meetings as a graduate student delegate, such as CFS meetings and workshops, Women in research committee, government roundtables.

My experiences from working with DAGS during past years made me familiar with this society. Since there is some ideal expectations that I am following for graduate students and they are long-term goals, and I love to play a role in fighting for this ideal grad life, I'm running for VP External position again.

**Why do you think you are a good candidate?**

As I mentioned earlier, I was cooperating with DAGS team during the past two years. So, I think my previous experiences in DAGS, and familiarity with laws and also the university administration, Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), and Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), can help me to address the graduate students issues better. Especially now, I do not require to obtain and build all previous relationships that I already made during the past year, and I can focus efficiently on the goals that provide better services for graduate students.

**What are the top three (3) things you'd like to accomplish during a term at the DAGS?**

Improve

1- DAG-University relation

2- DAG-DSU relation

3- DAG-CFS relation

Which all of these leads DAGS to provide reliable services and supports for graduate students, such as mental health support, financial assistant, and bring equity and inclusion for graduate students.

**What issues matter most to you?**

Graduate student's health care, especially mental health.

Equity and inclusion in graduate education and in all the on-campus activities.

**Please List any Campaign Links (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Website):**

**CONSTITUENT SUPPORT: TWO (2) EMAILS REQUIRED)**

In light of COVID-19, the requirement for ten constituent signatures will be waived for this election. Nominees will instead require a minimum of two emails from Dalhousie graduate students who are DAGS members to support their prospect of governance. Emails should include the name and B# of graduate student emailing, and be sent from Dal email address [within the domain of @dal.ca]

*Thank you for your application*

