



**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 your 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: Sima Rezaeipourfarsangi**

**Program: PhD of Computer Science**

**Year of Study: 3**

### QUESTIONS:

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

Hello, my name is Sima Rezaeipourfarsangi, and I am applying for Vice President Student Life. I am a PhD student at Dalhousie University in the field of computer science, and I am currently in the beginning of my third year. My research focus is natural language processing, specifically relating to document clustering using deep learning. During my last two years of research I worked as a TA and marker for five separate courses, and I worked in the CS learning center to help students with their projects and assignments. I am also now

conducting technical interviews for international students applying for master degrees in applied computer science at Dal.

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

- 1- Cultural concerns  
Culture isn't just a list of holidays or shared recipes, religious traditions, or language; it is a lived experience unique to each individual. I would like to help students to know about other cultures and share their own culture with others.
- 2- Help international students feel like they are at home  
As an international student, I know their concerns and needs. I would like the university to become a comfortable place for all students who are away from their families.
- 3- Helping to improve students' mental health  
Monitoring mental health issues for students is really important, these issues can become debilitating and even life-threatening.
- 4- More fun for graduate students  
I think students need more fun outside of their academic lives, particularly grad students who are frequently busy with their research. I would like to organize more sport and fun events for students.
- 5- Help new students  
I would like to help new students get to know each other and make friends by organizing more events for them.
- 6- Help students to have a better relationship with their supervisors  
I believe having a good relationship between students and their supervisors would help them improve their quality of life.

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

I have helped organize and manage graduate students as a supervisor for industrial research projects at Dal, and I have done the same for undergraduate students as a TA for several courses.

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

I like to help people. I am a motivated, experienced researcher who is actively involved in the graduate community. I care about the other graduate students at Dalhousie, and I understand their needs as I have experienced many of the most common issues faced by them first hand.

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

- Plan more events for grad students that encourage them to meet others
- Improve the overall mental health of grad students at Dal
- Allow international students to feel more connected with others in the academic community

**What issues matter most to you?**

- Ensuring grad students have a good quality of life outside of their studies
- Mental health
- Inclusion of international students in community events

**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*

