

**2020 Election Nomination Form**

DEADLINE – May 3rd 2021 – 11:59pm

Electronic submissions accepted. Send to cro@dags.ca

**Instructions:**

Please fill out the following questionnaire and email in digital copy to cro@dags.ca by May 3th 2021 at 11:59pm. 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 – May 3th 2021 at 11:59pm

• Campaigning – May 4th 2021 – May 8th 2021

• Voting – May 9th 2021 – May 13th 2021 at 11:59pm

• Results – To be declared on the dags.ca website

**Questions or Concerns?**

Contact the DAGS President – president@dags.ca

**Name: Fallen Matthews**

**B00 #: B00522845**

**Program: IDPhD**

**Year of Study:** 3rd (I will graduate in 2023)

QUESTIONS:

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

I’m Fallen Matthews (think ‘Allen’ with an ‘F’ in front): an interdisciplinary PhD student in psychoanalytic theory, gender studies, along with media and film studies. I also have years of experience as a teaching assistant, tutor, and invigilator for various subjects in the humanities and social sciences. My research projects are primarily qualitative, discourse and content analyses; and my concentrations are within interpersonal relationships, phenomenology, and folklore. I also incorporate and appreciate structuralist and feminist theories given my positionality as an Indigenous Black woman within scholarship. Additionally, I am a creative writer. My work has been featured in a number of publications ranging from academic journals, conference proceedings, anthologies, and grassroots zines.

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

* Work with university administration and students to expand graduate campus

initiatives

* Foster diversity in graduate student activities, events, representation, and campaigns • Strengthen communication between DAGS executives, graduate students, and campus societies
* Create and implement inclusive, interactive social media graduate resources and campaigns
* Aid graduate executives in the visuality of information management

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

I am a segment producer, content creator, and occasional host for several podcasts within grassroots initiatives. I have also had my writing featured in a number of publications which range from academic journals, conference proceedings, creative anthologies, and zines; all of wherein I discuss my positionality as a Black, Indigenous, queer woman and how these identities coalesce to inform my experience as a graduate student. The core objectives and principles of my work speak on the disparities—which must be amended—within academia and scholarship: how we might better relate and empower one another in terms of mental health, solidarity, and collectivizing as graduate students whose paths are shared despite our differences.

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

Dalhousie has always been a dear place to me ever since I got my bachelor’s degree here in sociology from 2009. Even though I completed my first graduate [master’s] degree elsewhere, its campus community provided me with immensely helpful and welcoming support systems. I was able to volunteer and engage with a number of campus societies in addition to graduate student networking and professional events and cultivate meaningful connections along with contributing to a number of social media campaigns. I believe that I am an ideal candidate for the VP of Student Life and Communications as all of this—in addition to my perspective and positionality—has taught me the value of scholarship and community: and how it is strengthened by genuine communication.

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

* Stronger outreach initiatives between executives, students, and societies
* Supporting students in meaningful scholarship and making connections
* Providing positive, useful feedback to executives and students

**What issues matter most to you?**

Many graduate students I’ve spoken to tend to be unaware of their rights as students and their membership of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). Although there are several issues which distinctly afflict graduate students—heavy workloads, faculty and/or departmental issues, etc.—I believe that the lack of awareness of their rights, CFS membership, and overall disconnection from one another to be very significant; and these issues are ones I can actively work towards relieving. I can speak from experience as I used to be relatively unaware of these things myself, but my entire outlook and campus life changed once I began to attend information sessions, connect with other students, and set boundaries [which I was afraid to set prior] with faculty and workloads. For me, CFS has proven to be an indispensable resource and support network; and knowing my experience—negative and positive—were shared gave me closure and strength to persevere.

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

I attached my poster in email.

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]

Jay Patel – jaykumarpatel@dal.ca

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Anas Tahir – an982571@dal.ca

*Thank you for your application*

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