**DAGS 2018 By-Election Nomination Form**

**Details:**

**Name: Martine Panzica
B00 #: B00806848
Program: MA International Development Studies
Year of Study: 1st**

 **Questions:**

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

Hi there! My name is Martine, I’m a first year MA student in the International Development Studies program. I’m originally from Caledon, Ontario, a tiny town just outside of Toronto. I’m applying for the President position of DAGS.

I completed my undergrad degree at Carleton University in Ottawa, in their Global Politics program, with a double minor in Italian and French language studies. My research here at Dal is on Queer refugees/asylum seekers and communications/social media. I’m also a former camp director, and I try to spend as much time as I can canoeing, kayaking, hiking and doing film photography!

***Please identify your top 5 platform points.***

* Planning various events throughout the year to create strong community within the graduate studies programs
* Events for inclusion of international students and Halifax newcomers to the graduate student as well as Halifax community
* Communicating to students the healthcare resources available to them at Dalhousie, specifically in terms of mental health resources
* Using social media platforms to communicate available grants, bursary and scholarship opportunities to graduate students
* Supporting the DAGS board of governors’ team in fulfilling their roles to the best of their ability

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

Camp Director Camp Simpresca, Penetanguishine, Ontario

January 2018 – January 2019

* Supervising management team of 5 core staff
* Hiring and managing general camp staff of 30 counsellors
* Providing support to all staff through training, resources, meetingsand evaluations
* Writing and updating policies and procedures regarding camp safety and daily function
* Creation of video advertisements throughout the season, resulting in an influx in registrations
* Facilitation of all camp social media accounts, specifically Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

Intern in Disaster Risk Reduction,Friends Service Council Nepal (FSCN), Lalitpur, Nepal

January 2017-April 2017

* Responsible for conducting original research within the Kathmandu Valley
* Liaison between FSCN and various other non-profit organizations in Nepal and internationally
* Gathered information from over 300 citizens using a disaster background survey
* Designed long term proposal for urban disaster risk reduction
* Wrote and edited over 30 funding proposals on behalf of the organization
* Used Microsoft Excel and SPSS to log and analyze large amounts of data

Phi Sigma Sigma Fraternity, Vice President, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

January 2015 – January 2018

* Working to fundraise for various organizations throughout the year, including CIBC Run For the Cure, UNICEF, Free the Children, and frequent clothing drives throughout the year
* Individually running weekly meetings concerning managing fundraising events
* Regularly fundraising and promoting local organization Dress for Success, which works with women to help lower unemployment in Ottawa
* Carleton University’s Relay For Life’stop fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis raising over $10 000

Volunteer Student Emergency First Responder Carleton University, Ottawa

September 2015 – April 2018

* Responding to Carleton community of 30 000 students and staff in various types of medical situations
* Working as a team to help students deal with mental stress as well as physical injuries and symptoms
* Attending weekly trainings, monthly evaluations and bi-annual skills competitions to maintain first aid skills, and learning skills relevant to student stress and student health

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

As a former Camp Director, I know the value in open communication in a team environment. As the DAGS President, I would prioritize the communication and support of the DAGS team, in order to provide graduate students with a comprehensive resource system for all aspects of their graduate lives. My experience working as a team leader and in organizational event planning at Carleton University has given me tools that I plan to apply to the DAGS position. I am passionate about my work, but I also know the stress and challenges facing graduate students as they work towards their degrees, whether it be financially, socially, mentally or physically. I believe I would be a good candidate for the DAGS President position since I am dedicated to students’ wellbeing, am open and honest in my communication, and passionate about both improving our community and supporting each other as students.

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

* Stronger presence with Dalhousie graduate students in terms of resources and accessibility from DAGS
* Creating resources and events for international students and newcomers
* Promoting the financial and healthcare resources available for Dalhousie graduate students in order to create conversations surrounding student wellbeing

*What issues matter most to you?*

* Student mental health and support resources
* Refugee and immigrant support
* Crisis support: specificallyfor sexual and gender based violence
* Environmental sustainability and climate change

Please List anyCampaign Links (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Website):